

10th June, 1969.

The A.G.M. of the Battalion was held on the above date at 8 P.M. in Craig Hill Presbyterian Church Hall, Larne. Fifty two Officers representing 13 companies attended and apologies were received from two Officers.

Mr. J. W. Sandford M.B.E., J.P., Battalion President occupied the chair and the opening devotions were conducted by Rev Andrew Orr M.A. Battalion Chaplain.

The minutes of the 1968 A.G.M. were read, confirmed and signed following which the Battalion Secretary gave the report of the Executive for the Session. This was adopted without discussion on the proposal of Mr. Williams Simms seconded by Mr. Robert Ferguson.

Mr. Alex. Mc Bride, Battalion Treasurer, presented the financial statement showing a credit balance of £291.2. This was approved on the proposal of Rev. Orr seconded by Mr. J. Mc Bully.

The Battalion Secretary reminded those present of the N.I.D. Annual Meeting, the East Antim conference in September and Brigade Council at Liverpool.

The President then spoke of the two enjoyable years he had spent in that position and how he had watched East Antim grow from outlying companies of Belfast Battalion to group status and now to a Battalion in its own right. He paid tribute to all officers

and urged that the high standard might be maintained in the companies. He then ~~was~~ handed over to Mr. Cecil W. Graham to declare all offices vacant and conduct the election of office Bearers for 1969/70.

Mr. Graham paid tribute to the work of Mr. Sandford for so many years in The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland and through District Committees and in East Antim in particular where he had been first group chairman and first Battalion President. He then proceeded to declare all offices vacant and conducted the election which resulted as follows :-

PRESIDENT	J. Dorman J.P.	prop. J. W. Sandford	sec. B. P. Smyth	
VICE PRESIDENTS	C.S.	W. A. Ryan	prop. W. J. Fitzell	sec. W. Simms
	J.S.	Mr. E. Brooks	prop. B. P. Smyth	sec. E. McQuitty
BATT. CHAPLAIN	Rev RVA Lynas	prop. Rev A. Orr	sec. Rev Fullerton	
BATT. SECRETARY	B. P. Smyth	prop. J. W. Sandford	sec. Mr. E. Brooks	
TREASURER	A. Mc Bride	prop. W. A. Ryan	sec. J. R. McDonald	
REP. ON N.I.D. EXECUTIVE	J. N. Boal	prop. J. Snoddy	sec. J. Brooks	
REPS ON BATT. EXEC.	C.S.	J. Snoddy	prop. J. W. Sandford	sec. Rev Lynas
	J.S.	J. Simms	prop. J. Brooks	sec. Rev Lynas
	J.S.	after J. Brooks had been prop. & sec. but withdrew.		
	J.S.	Miss S. Gardner	prop. Mr. Fleck	sec. B. Hamilton
		J. Bell	prop. Mr. M. Fleck	sec. B. Hamilton

FINANCE COMMITTEE	W. J. Fitzell	D. Hilditch	} prop Rev. Lynch sec J. W. Sandford
	J. Buck	Mr. C. Brooks	
BADGES + TRAINING C'TEE	J. Brooks	J. Proddy	} prop Rev. A. Ott sec L. Murphy
	C. Lynch	W. J. Fitzell	
	W. Simms	R. Bailie	
HANDBOOK COMMITTEE	W. Allen	J. Simms	} prop J. Brooks sec D. A. Barry
	Miss Gardner	D. Hilditch	
	Mr. McBride	L. Murphy	
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION C'TEE	Rev. Lynch, Brennan, McAuley		} prop W. Allen sec C. Barlake
	+ Johnston, J. Wood	Mr. McBride	
	J. Brooks	L. Murphy	

Mr. Graham remained in the chair and introduced Miss Esther Fyffe, a member of the Brigade Uniforms Committee, who most acceptably modelled the proposed new uniforms for lady lieutenants and answered questions on it.

The meeting then adjourned for supper kindly provided by the ladies of 3rd Lane Co. To show a vote of thanks was passed on the proposal of Mr. W. H. Lynch.

On resumption the N.I.D. Secretary for Training and Extensions spoke on the reports of the working parties set up by N.I.D. Executive in connection with the Commission's report. In particular he mentioned the effects it may have on our Battalions and the suggested amalgamation with

Newtownabbey and S.E. Antim groups. Many questions were asked and the subject was thoroughly ventilated, the mind of the meeting being that S.E. Antim was too remote to be joined with East Antim.

Mr. Jonathan Simms referred to the situation where Mr. J. W. Sandford MBE JP had now retired from Battalion Presidency and our constitution did not allow for any honorary position to which he could be appointed. It was agreed that this matter be left to the Executive to bring forward a recommendation.

Mr. Simms then referred to the report of the Executive and paid tribute to the work of the Battalion Secretary who, he said, had done so much during the session and had drafted the report for the Executive's approval. His proposition of thanks and confidence was seconded by Rev. Lynch and passed by acclamation.

Mr. D. A. Barry referred to the financial statement, which had been presented unaudited, and asked that the Executive reconsider the expenditure incurred by the Company Section for hymn sheets at their Annual Service. He felt that the £11.8.0 could have been more beneficially spent on B.B. work overseas.

This concluded the business and Rev. J. A. Fullerton B.A. B.D. pronounced the benediction.

R. P. Smyth
Battalion Secretary.

Thomas Dorman
Chairman 16.6.70.