

WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE

MINUTE BOOK

ICS 97 1/6/11

The Best Indian Contingent Committee.

On the invitation of Mr. Secretary Benson Lewis the following gentlemen met at the Colonial Office on Monday August 30th 1915, as a Committee to provide for the welfare of the Best Indian Contingent which has been accepted by the Army Council and is in course of formation:

- ✓ Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
- ✓ Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
- ✓ Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.
- ✓ Sir Owen Phillips K.C.M.G.
- ✓ Mr. William Gillespie
- ✓ Mr. G. Moody Stuart
- W. G. M. Goode and
- Mr. Algernon C. Aspinall

The following Gentlemen had also been invited but were unable to attend the first meeting:

- ✓ Mr. Edward R. Dawson
- ✓ Mr. C. B. Hamilton C.M.G.
- ✓ Sir Robert Levelyn K.C.M.G.
- ✓ Mr. Robert Rutherford and
- ✓ Sir James Hayes Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.

Appointment
of Chairman
and Hon. Secretary

On the motion of Sir Sydney Olivier, seconded by Sir Frederic Hodgson, Sir Gerard in Thurn was appointed Chairman, and on the motion of Sir Frederic Hodgson, seconded by the Chairman Mr. Aspinall was appointed Hon. Secretary of the Best Indian Contingent Committee.

The Chairman having stated that had been done for the welfare of the Contingent from Fiji, which however includes only some 120 members, all of

Some are of European race, it was agreed that little could be done in behalf of the best Indians until particulars were forthcoming as to the composition of the Contingent, especially as to its racial characteristics and as to conditions of service.

Composition of the best Indians Contingent.

Mr. Darnley of the Colonial Office who was invited to attend, said that as far as was then known the best Indians would number about 1960 in all, that 120 men from British Guiana would arrive about September 6th, and a detachment from the Leeward Islands about September 20th. 760 men from Trinidad, the Windward Islands & Barbados were expected early in October, and probably 500 men from Jamaica in the same month. The majority of the men were, he understood, of African and a few of East Indian origin. The Europeans might perhaps be considered for Commissaries. The financial arrangements made by the various Colonies were not uniform, and, in some cases had not yet been definitely settled.

The War Office would arrange for the landing and quartering of the men at Seaford in Sussex; the bulking arrangements were in the hands of General Burch.

Sub-Committee to interview General Burch.

The Chairman, Sir Sydney Olivier, Sir Frederic Hodgson and the Secretary were appointed a Sub-Committee to interview General Burch and to warn him of the difficulties which might arise in quartering the men.

Sir E. Burch K.C.V.O.

It was decided to invite Sir Edward Burch K.C.V.O. to join the Committee.

Objects of the Committee.

It was agreed that it would be important to provide for the welfare of the men of the Contingent

While in training and on furlough & especially when wounded or invalided.

Sir Owen Philipps called attention to the necessity of finding a convalescent home where the men could be taken in.

Hospitality and the Y.M.C.A. The Chairman referred to the difficulty which might arise in finding hospitality for the men, and the Secretary was requested to ascertain the attitude of the Young Men's Christian Association & similar bodies.

Funds.

The question of raising funds was mentioned and was left over for the next meeting.

Forward in Thru

9. 17. 15

The minutes of a meeting of the best Indian Contingent Committee held on Thursday September 9th 1915

Present Sir Everard im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
in the Chair.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.
Sir Robert Levelyn K.C.M.G.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
Sir James Hayes Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Bard K.C.V.O.
Mr. C. B. Hamillan C.M.G.
Mr. L. Gillespie
Mr. G. Moody Stuart
Mr. J. Rippon
Mr. R. Rutherford
& Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall Hon. Secretary.

Minutes read.

The minutes of the preceding meeting, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Sir E. Bard & Mr J. Rippon elected.

On the motion of the Chairman, Sir Edward Bard Bt. K.C.V.O., K.C.B. and Mr. J. Rippon were elected members of the Committee

Sir C. Lucas to be invited to join.

The Chairman was authorised to invite Sir Charles Lucas K.C.B., K.C.M.G. Chairman of the Council of the Royal Colonial Institute to join the Committee

Hon. Treasurers appointed.

On the motion of the Chairman, Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G. and Mr. R. Rutherford were appointed Hon. Treasurers of the best Indian Contingent Committee.

A working Sub-Committee formed.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. L. Gillespie, the Chairman, the Hon. Treasurers, Sir Edward Bard K.C.V.O., K.C.B. and the Hon. Secretary were

appointed a working sub-committee with power to add to their numbers.

Headquarters to be at 15, Seething Lane.

It was decided to make the best Indian Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. the address of the best Indian Contingent Committee and to hold meetings at the Colonial Office - as, when no room there was available at the best Indian Club.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to thank the best Indian Committee and the best Indian Club for placing their rooms at the disposal of the Contingent Committee.

Offers of hospitality from the Union Jack Club & Y.M.C.A.

Read (1) A letter from the Comptroller of the Union Jack Club (dated Sep: 1st) offering the hospitality of the Club to the members of the best Indian Contingent. (2) letters from the National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association (dated Sep: 3 & 8) offering to provide a recreation tent for the best Indians & to do all in their power to provide for the welfare of the members of the best Indian Contingent.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to accept these offers with thanks.

Convalescent Home.

A discussion took place regarding the provision of a separate convalescent home for the men & the principle was approved.

Conditions of enlistment.

The Chairman outlined the terms of enlistment particulars of which he had received from the Colonial Office.

Paymaster.

It was decided to recommend to the Army Council through Sir Edward Bantock the appointment of a special Paymaster for the best Indian Contingent.

Offer of help to Bermuda Contingent.

It appearing that a military Contingent from Bermuda comprising 89 men attached to the 1st

Lincoln Regiment it was unanimously decided to place the services of the best Indian Contingent Committee at their disposal and to request the Colonial Office to cable to the Governor of the Bermudas accordingly.

Best Indians
enlisting in H.M.
Forces to be
helped.
Funds.

It was decided also to endeavour to provide for the welfare of best Indians who had come over or might come over to enlist apart from the best Indian Contingent.

A draft appeal for Funds was considered and referred to the Hon. Treasurers and the working sub-committee who were authorised to publish it.

Everard in Thurn

SIR.—The Army Council having accepted the offer of the British West Indies, British Guiana, and British Honduras to supply a contingent for service with the Imperial Forces, the under-mentioned Colonies are sending detachments, the total strength of which will be about 2,000 men: the Bahamas, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, and Turks Islands, the Leeward Islands, the Windward Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago.

At the instance of the Secretary of State for the Colonies a Committee has been formed to provide for the welfare and comfort of these men, as well as of some hundreds who have already come over independently, and of others who may come over from the West Indies to enlist in the new armies. The Governor of Bermuda, which has a detachment at the Front, has accepted the offer of the Committee to help the men from that Colony also. We believe that the spirit which has made our fellow subjects overseas claim to show their devotion to their King and country and to play their part in upholding the unity and honour of the Empire will meet with general admiration.

The West Indian Contingent will be drawn chiefly from classes untravelled and unfamiliar with the life of European communities. It is hoped, therefore, that they may receive a particularly hospitable welcome. They will in many cases require assistance and advice while in training or on furlough, or when wounded and in hospital, and it will be necessary to make special provision for their accommodation during convalescence after discharge from hospital. The contingents from other parts of the Empire are already provided for in these respects, and arrangements should certainly be made for our soldiers from the British West Indies also.

To enable the Committee efficiently to carry out its purpose it will be necessary to secure at once a considerable sum of money, which it is hoped may be speedily forthcoming. Donations, which will be gratefully acknowledged, may be sent to the Hon. Treasurers of the West Indian Contingent Fund, 15, Seething-lane, City, cheques being crossed "The Union of London and Smiths Bank."—Yours, &c.,

EVERARD IM THURN (Chairman).

HAREWOOD	GLENNONER.
E. W. D. WARD.	C. P. LUCAS.
J. HAYES SADLER.	W. GREY WILSON.
FRANCIS FLEMING.	OWEN PHILIPPS.
SYDNEY OLIVIER.	R. RUTHERFORD.
J. RIPPON.	

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL (Hon. Sec.)
The West Indian Contingent Committee,
15, Seething-lane, Sept. 24.

xx
Meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee
held at the Colonial Office on Thursday September
23rd 1915

Present Sir Richard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
in the Chair

Sir Edward Card Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir J. Hayes Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Robert Evelyn K.C.M.G.

Sir William Grey Wilson K.C.M.G.

Mr. G. L. G. G. G. G.

" C. B. Hamilton C.M.G.

" L. Gillespie

" G. Morley Street

" L. G. Dawson

" R. Rutherford

" Algernon L. Despatch

Mr. G. L. G. G. G. of the Colonial Office
also attended.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having
been confirmed:

The Earl of Harcourt K.C.V.O.

Lord Glencannon

Sir Charles Lucas K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir Francis Fleming K.C.M.G.

& Sir William Grey Wilson K.C.M.G.

were appointed members of the Committee

Colonel Sir Edward Card Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
was appointed Hon. Treasurer.

The draft appeal to be signed by the General
Purpose Committee & by members of the Committee
representative of the various Colonies sending
detachments was approved.

The West Indian Contingent Committee,

15, SEETHING LANE,

LONDON, E.C.

SEPTEMBER, 1915.

Chairman :

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., C.B.

Hon. Treasurers :

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., K.C.B.,
K.C.V.O.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G.

ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

Hon. Secretary :

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, ESQ., B.A.,
Barrister at Law.

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL.

Telegrams: "CARIB. LONDON."

DEAR SIR,

The Army Council having accepted the offer of the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras, to supply a Contingent for service with the Imperial Forces, the undermentioned Colonies are sending detachments, the total strength of which will be about 2,000 men: the Bahamas, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica and Turks Islands, the Leeward Islands, the Windward Islands and Trinidad and Tobago.

At the instance of the Secretary of State for the Colonies a Committee has been formed to provide for the welfare and comfort of these men as well as of some hundreds who have already come over independently and of others who may come over from the West Indies to enlist in the new armies.

The Governor of Bermuda, which has a detachment at the front, has accepted the offer of the Committee to help the men from that Colony also.

We believe that the spirit which has made our fellow subjects overseas claim to show their devotion to their King and Country and to play their part in upholding the unity and honour of the Empire will meet with general admiration.

The West Indian Contingent will be drawn chiefly from classes untravelling and unfamiliar with the life of European communities. It is hoped, therefore, that they may receive a particularly hospitable welcome. They will in many cases require assistance and advice while in training or on furlough or when wounded and in hospital and it will be necessary to make special provision for their accommodation during convalescence after discharge from hospital.

It was resolved that the present members of the Committee should thenceforward form an Executive Committee.

It was resolved:

That an account be opened at the Union of London and Smiths Bank Ltd in the name of the West Indian Contingent Committee.

That the said Bank be, and they are hereby, authorised to pay all cheques drawn upon such account when signed by one of the Hon. Treasurers of the Committee, and countersigned by the Secretary, and that all documents requiring the indorsement of the Committee may be indorsed by or its behalf by the Hon. Secretary.

That a copy of this Resolution, signed by the Chairman, and accompanied by specimens of the signatures of the Hon. Treasurers and Hon. Secretary be forwarded to the Bank.

Sir Edward Card submitted a report on a visit which he had paid to Seafood Camp.

It being understood that he was willing to act Mr. Bernard Bouquar was appointed Hon. Asst. Secretary.

Edward in Theron

- 22. 10. 18 -

The Contingents from other parts of the Empire are already provided for in these respects, and arrangements should certainly be made for our soldiers from the British West Indies also.

To enable the Committee efficiently to carry out its purpose it will be necessary to secure at once a considerable sum of money which it is hoped may be speedily forthcoming. How much will eventually be needed must depend upon the duration of the war and other contingencies which cannot be foreseen.

On behalf of the Committee we venture to ask if you will allow us to place your name on the General Committee as a subscriber and will induce others to contribute liberally towards the West Indian Contingent Fund.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

EVERARD IM THURN, *Chairman.*

HAREWOOD.

GLENCONNER.

E. W. D. WARD.

C. P. LUCAS.

J. HAYES SADLER.

W. GREY WILSON.

FRANCIS FLEMING.

OWEN PHILIPPS.

SYDNEY OLIVIER.

R. RUTHERFORD.

J. RIPPON.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,

Hon. Sec.

To the Hon. Secretary,
The West Indian Contingent Committee,
15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

..... 1915.

I enclose for £ being a contribution towards the West Indian Contingent Fund. Please add my name to the General Committee.

(Signed)

(Address)

.....
*Cheques should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurers, the West Indian Contingent Committee, and crossed "The Union of London and Smiths' Bank."

Meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee
October 22^d at the Colonial Office.

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
in the Chair

Sir J. Hayes Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.

Sir Francis Fleming K.C.M.G.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.

Mr. C. B. Hamilton C.M.G.

" Edward R. Dawson

" G. Gillespie

" G. Moody Stuart

" J. Rippen

" R. Rutherford

" Algernon L. Crespwell Hon: Sec

" Bernard Bangun Asst: Hon: Sec

Mr. G. L. G. Guille C.M.G. was also present by
invitation.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting which
had already been circulated were taken as
read and confirmed.

The Hon: Treasurer reported that the Contingent
Fund amounted to £1835.0.6.

Mr. Rutherford and the Hon: Secretaries presented
a report regarding a visit which they had
paid to Seaford Camp, where the Contingent was
quartered, on October 8th.

The Committee approved the purchase of a type
writer and desks for the Orderly Room and 6
Benches.

It was decided on the recommendation of

Colonel Barchard to defray the cost of Concerts to be held on Saturday nights in the Y.M.C.A. but until the end of this year at a cost not exceeding 35/- for each concert.

It was further agreed to supply the Regimental Reading Room with newspapers and magazines for the present, it being understood that the Officer Commanding would pay to the Committee any sums received from the war office for this purpose. It was mentioned that the Camp's Library had promised to provide books and magazines, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to thank Sir Edward Baul for securing this gift.

The Chairman outlined proposals for the formation of a Ladies Committee under the Presidency of the Countess of Stamford which were approved, and Miss Moreley of the Bahamas was appointed Hon. Secretary.

It was decided to accept with thanks the offer by Mr. R. Burlidge (of Harrods Ltd) of No 5 Trevor Square, Kent free, for the use of the Ladies Committee.

A discussion took place regarding the East Indians who came over with the Contingent, but it was held that such matters as the constitution of the Contingent did not come within the purview of the Committee.

A point raised by Sir Frederic Hodgson as to the cooking arrangements at the Camp was referred to the Officer Commanding.

Everard in Thurn

26 Nov. 1915

Meeting of the best Indian Contingent Committee
Friday November 26th 1915.

Attendance

Sir Gerard in Thurn in the Chair
K.C.M.G., C.B.

Colonel Sir Edward Bant K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir James Hayes-Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir William Grey-Gilson K.C.M.G.

Sir Sydney Oliver K.C.M.G.

Sir Robert Evelyn K.C.M.G.

William Gillespie Esq

J. Rippen Esq

R. Rutherford Esq

and Algernon L. Aspinall Esq

G. L. G. Quiddle Esq of the Colonial Office was also present.

Minutes

The minutes of the preceding meeting were confirmed.

Balance

The Hon. Treasurer reported that £ 2748 - 16 had been received towards the Contingent Funds to date and that the outgoings amounted to £ 97 - 13 - 6.

Of the amount received, £ 2500 had been placed on deposit.

The expenditure included:

£ 10 Contribution towards the C.O.'s Fund

10 Catering for 42 ranks & file on Lord Mayor's day

£ 15 - 6 - 6 Typewriter & clerk for the Orderly room

£ 16 - 10 Parmarked for distribution to individual men

Strength of Regt:

The Secretary reported that the strength of the British best Indian Regiment would be

greater than originally contemplated.
3000 men with drafts (100 per cent in one
year) making 6000 in all were already
expected.

Sir G. Le Hunt
elected.

His Excellency Sir George Le Hunt G.C.M.G.
was unanimously elected a member of the
Committee.

Sir F. Hodgson
elected to G.P. Sec.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G. was unani-
mously elected a member of the General Purposes
Committee.

Ladies Committee

The Chairman reported that the inaugural
meeting of the Ladies' Committee was to be held
on November 29th and that Her Highness Princess
Marie Louise who had consented to be Patron
would be present. The Finance Committee of the
Westminster Council had consented to waive the
General rates on No 5, Trevor Square.

Objects of the Committee

Correspondence with the Colonial Office res-
pecting the objects of the Contingent Committee
was laid on the table.

Edward in Thron

9.2.16

The Minutes of a meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee held on Wednesday February 9 1916.

Present Sir Edward Im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.

Lord Glencannon

Sir James Hayes Sadler K.C.M.G., C.B.

Colonel Sir Edward Card Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O

Sir William Grey Wilson K.C.M.G.

Sir Robert Evelyn K.C.M.G.

C. B. Hamilton Esq. C.M.G.

R. H. Dawson Esq

G. Gillespie Esq

G. A. M. Goode Esq

H. Rutherford Esq

& Algernon Caspiall Esq Hon. Sec:

Mr. G. E. A. Guindal Esq. C.M.G. of the Colonial Office was also present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting which had been circulated were taken as read and confirmed.

On the motion of the Chairman Sir Frederic Hodgson was unanimously elected Deputy Chairman & Sir Henry Blake was unanimously elected a member of the Committee.

The Hon Secretary reported that a third Service Battalion of the British West Indies Regiment, comprising men from Jamaica only, had been formed at Plymouth under the Command of Major Good-Hill. The first and second Battalions under the command of Colonel Barchard and Colonel Founce respectively had left Seaforth Camp for Egypt.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the total of the

Contingent Fund to date was $\pounds \overset{3512-9-5}{\del{2637-19-5}}$
exclusive of sums amounting to $\pounds 871.10.6$ received
and earmarked for special purposes.

$\pounds 2000$ had been invested in Treasury Bills and
 $\pounds 750$ was on deposit at the Bank.

The Chairman raised the question of the health
of the British West Indies Regiment while at Seaford
and expressed regret that the arrangements made
by the R. A. M. C. had not been more satisfactory.
At the outset there had been difficulty in ob-
taining hospital supplies, and the Committee
were indebted to Sir Edward Bask for giving
Major Neish the facilities for obtaining them.

An estimate of the probable expenditure of the
Ladies' Committee was submitted & it was agreed
that the proceeds of the Concert held in aid
of the Fund, ^(see below) should be earmarked for that Committee.

The Secretary reported the arrangements made
for the comfort of the non-commissioned officers and
men of the British West Indies Regiment at Christ-
mas and these were approved.

The Directions regarding gifts drawn up by the
General Purposes Committee and circulated in
January were approved.

It was decided to present to each of the
Battalions of the British West Indies Regiment
instruments &c for a Drum and Fife Band, and
sporting equipment. (Football, Cricket Sets, Boxing
Gloves &c)

The question of providing board & lodging for the
men of the British West Indies Regiment on dis-
charge from hospital was raised. The Secretary re-
ported that he had seen Colonel Harold Barron

at the Gas Office & that he had stated that in the event of the Committee establishing a convalescent home the Gas Office would contribute 2/- per occupied bed per diem. He recommended the Committee in the first instance to ask the Secretary of the Gas Office if it was intended to return the best Indians to this Country or to make arrangements for their accommodation abroad. For the best Indians, the Government of India had established Convalescent homes at its own expense.

Concert in aid
of Fund.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Grand Concert held in aid of the Fund at the Royal Automobile Club on January 25th had realised £120. Cordial votes of thanks were passed to Mr. John Bramley the organiser, to Mr. Julian Orles & the Committee of the Club for the loan of the room and to Mr. Bramley, Mr. Ashton Janson and Miss Moreley for their kind help.

Votes of thanks to

Mr. J. Bramley

Mr. J. Orles

Mr. Bramley

Mr. A. Janson

Miss Moreley

&

Mr. B. Banyun

A vote of thanks was also passed to Mr. Bernard Banyun of the Nigerian Civil Service for his kind services as Hon. Secretary from October to December 1916.

Everard in Thron

5 May 1916

55 copies

The Minutes of a Meeting of the best Indian Contingent Committee held in the ^{Library} at the Colonial Office on Friday May 5th 1915. (26)

Present Sir Everard im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Col: Sir Edward Card Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G. Deputy
- Chairman

Mr. G. A. M. Gooden
" C. B. Hamilton C.M.G.
" J. Rippen
" R. Rutherford
" " Algernon L. Aspinall Hon. Sec:

Mr. J. F. H. Green of the Colonial Office was also present by invitation.

Minutes
Confirmed.

The minutes of the preceding meeting, which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Strength of
the B.W.I.R

The Hon. Secretary stated that the strength of the British best Indian Regiment was as reported at last meeting. The 1st 2^d & 3^d Battalions were now at Mex Camp in the desert 8 miles from Alexandria whilst the men at the Depot at Plymouth under Colonel Gibson numbered about 300. There had been no further arrivals.

State of
Fund.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the total of the donations received to April 30th was £3693.5.3 exclusive of £988.15.11 received and earmarked for special purposes. £43.7.5 had been received as interest on deposits and investments.

The G. P. Com.
minutes.

The Chairman reported that the General Purposes Committee had met on March 27 & 28.

On March 17 Sir S. Olivier had presented a report regarding a visit which he had paid to the Camp at Plymouth & had stated that he had found the men happy & all the arrangements satisfactory. A letter from the War Office had been read stating that it was not proposed to send men from Egypt to this Country Men convalescent after sickness and that only men who were to be repatriated would be sent to England. Arrangements for the repatriation of ~~some~~ Private Cameron of the Trinidad Contingent had been approved. Action taken with regard to a man who had left his ^{regiment without leave was also approved.}

The Committee on March 27th interviewed Colonel A. B. M. Gibson the O. C. of the depot who came up from Plymouth for the purpose & it had been agreed to present to the depot 4 Bugles, 2 sick drums & a gramophone

The report was approved & the actions of the General Purposes Committee confirmed.

A discussion took place regarding the health of the men in the British West Indies Regiment & Mr. Green furnished statistics on the subject

Deaths in England	29
" at sea	6
" " Alexandria	<u>28</u>
Total	63

He also referred to the regrettable incident of the Verdalla which had been sent to Halifax to pick up her escort with the result that there had been much sickness the troopship not being equipped for cold weather. There had been 27 cases of gangrene & probably 3 amputations

The Health of
B.W.I.R.

The Voyage of
the Verdalla

3. Cases of pneumonia & 100 cases of other forms of sickness, principally frostbite.

The men had been sent to Bermuda to await the *Magdalena Smith* had been despatched to pick them up.

The Hon Secretary read the following report submitted by Miss Moseley, Hon. Secretary of the Ladies Committee:

The work of the Ladies Committee has expanded considerably lately. After the B.W.I. Regiment left for Egypt, efforts were made to get into touch with West Indians in English regiments and numbers of men have been provided with comforts. Very appreciative letters have been received from those at the front, and in hospital in England, many of whom have been visited. Arrangements have been made to have men in various hospitals in the country looked up, and those in or near London have been visited by the Hon. Secretary. Three prisoners of War in Germany have been communicated with, and supplied with several parcels of food.

Lady Philipps felt compelled, owing to other demands upon her time, to resign the Chairmanship of the Working Committee at the beginning of April, but she has very kindly offered to continue the weekly working parties at her house, and has in other ways shown the deepest interest in our work. Lady Davson was elected chairman of the Working Committee on the 5th April, and Lady Hodgson has consented to act as Deputy Chairman. Lady Hayes Sadler and her Eastern League have very kindly undertaken another working party for the West Indians and meetings are now held weekly at the Indian Room at Whiteley's which are attended by members of our Committee. We have at present a large stock of comforts, as gifts continue to come in from all sources in addition to the articles made at the Working parties.

Everard in Thurn. 13. VIII. 18

The Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of the West Indian Contingent Committee held on May 13 1916, at Scotland House.

Present Sir Leonard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.

Colonel Sir Edward Bant Hart K.C.V.O., K.C.B.

^{Sir James Hayes Smith C.B., K.C.M.G.}
W. C. B. Hamillan C.M.G.

.. G. Gillespie

.. G. Guthrie

.. Algernon E. Cripps all Hon. Secs

Minutes con-
firmed.

The Minutes of a meeting held on May 5 were taken as read and confirmed.

Mr Hart Bennett
elected.

Mr G. Hart Bennett C.M.G. was appointed a member of the Executive & Mr G. B. Smith-Hewson was appointed Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Mr Smith-Hewson
Hon. Sec.

It was resolved

Caps Badges
to be presented
to B. G. I. Regt.

That the West Indian Contingent Committee agrees to present distinctive caps badges to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment at a cost not exceeding £160, that the General Purposes Committee be authorised to make the necessary arrangements to this end, and that Colonel Sir Edward Bant be requested to obtain the sanction of His Majesty the King for the use of the Imperial Crown in the design approved by the officers of the battalions already raised.

Dutiable gifts.

Correspondence on the subject having been reported, the Hon. Secretary was instructed to inform the Colonial Office that the Contingent Committee could be willing to act as an approved central authority for the receipt and distribution of dutiable gift parcels to soldiers & sailors from the West Indies.

PROOF ONLY.—For the consideration of the Executive.

The West Indian Contingent Committee.

Signed Copy

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE

For the Ten Months ended June 30th, 1916.

LONDON :
THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

EXECUTIVE.

Chairman.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., C.B.

Deputy Chairman.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, K.C.M.G., V.D.

Hon. Treasurers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G.

ROBERT RUTHERFORD, Esq.

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD, K.C.V.O.

LORD GLENCONNER.

SIR HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

SIR GEORGE R. LE HUNTE, G.C.M.G.

SIR CHARLES LUCAS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

SIR FRANCIS FLEMING, K.C.M.G.

SIR WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, K.C.M.G.

SIR OWEN PHILIPPS, K.C.M.G., M.P.

SIR ROBERT LLEWELYN, K.C.M.G.

SIR JAMES HAYES-SADLER, K.C.M.G.

C. B. HAMILTON, Esq., C.M.G.

EDWARD R. DAVSON, Esq.

WILLIAM GILLESPIE, Esq.

W. A. M. GOODE, Esq.

J. RIPPON, Esq.

G. MOODY STUART, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Esq.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

Patron.

HER HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARY LOUISE OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

President.

THE COUNTESS OF STAMFORD.

THE HON. MRS. HENRY EDWARDES.

LADY LE HUNTE.

LADY IM THURN.

LADY CAMERON.

LADY DAVSON.

LADY FLEMING.

LADY GREY-WILSON.

LADY HAYES-SADLER.

LADY HODGSON.

LADY LLEWELYN.

LADY OLIVIER.

LADY PHILIPPS.

LADY SENDALL.

MRS. ASPINALL.

MRS. BONYUN.

MRS. BROMLEY.

MRS. GORDON GORDON.

MRS. HARLEY MOSELEY.

MRS. JAMES RICHMOND.

MRS. RIPPON.

MRS. RUTHERFORD.

MRS. MOODY STUART.

MRS. WADE.

Hon. Secretary—MISS MARY MOSELEY.

Bankers.

THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK.

Offices.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS, 15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

For the Ten Months ended June 30th, 1916.

The West Indian Contingent Committee was established at a meeting held at the Colonial Office on August 30th, 1915, at the instance of the Right Hon. A. Bonar Law, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Its object, as indicated in an appeal for funds which was issued early in September, is to provide for the welfare of the West India and Bermuda Military Contingents, and of men coming over independently to serve in His Majesty's Forces during the present war.

At the inaugural meeting, Sir Everard im Thurn, K.C.M.G., C.B., was appointed Chairman, and, at subsequent meetings Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., V.D., was elected Deputy Chairman, Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., and Mr. Robert Rutherford, Hon. Treasurers, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. Secretary. Mr. Bernard Bonyun and Mr. G. B. Smith-Rewse, of the Colonial Civil Service, kindly gave their services to the Committee as Assistant Hon. Secretaries whilst in this country on leave of absence.

The West India Committee, which had already suggested the formation of an organisation on the lines of that now established, was good enough to place its staff and offices at the disposal of The West Indian Contingent Committee, with the result that the work of this body has been carried on at a minimum of expense. The West Indian Club was also kind enough to extend hospitality to the Committee.

It will be noted from the statement of receipts and payments appended to this report (see pages 6 and 7) that, in response to the appeal above referred to £4,808 9s. 4d., was received to June 30th, making with sums earmarked for special purposes (£974 13s. 6d.) and interest on sums placed on deposit, and discount on Treasury Bills (£58 14s. 6d.) a total of £5,841 17s. 4d. Against this the expenditure

amounted to £1,774 18s. 11d. including £880 9s. 6d. of the sums specially earmarked, leaving a balance of £3,566 18s. 5d. The Hon. Treasurers also held various small sums in trust for men in His Majesty's Forces to the value of £188 7s. 4d.

A very successful Concert in aid of the fund, organised by Mr. John Bromley, was held on January 25th at the Royal Automobile Club, through the courtesy of Mr. Julian Orde and the Club Committee, and realised £120.

For military reasons the Committee is not permitted at present to disclose the strength of the British West Indies Regiment, which comprises the Contingents for active service furnished by the inhabitants of the British West India Islands, British Guiana and British Honduras. It may, however, be stated that the numbers already exceed early estimates, and that recruits are still freely coming forward as required.

The general conduct of the affairs of the Contingent Committee was entrusted to a General Purposes Committee consisting of Sir Everard in Thurn, K.C.M.G., C.B., Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., V.D., Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., Mr. R. Rutherford, and the Hon. Secretary.

Members of the Committee paid several visits to Seaford Camp, where the first units of the British West Indies Regiment were stationed, and to Plymouth, when the Depôt was moved to that town. The medical conditions at the camps received attention and comforts were provided for the men in hospital.

The Committee made arrangements for the reception and entertainment of forty-two non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment, under Captain G. J. L. Goulding and Lieutenant H. J. Cavanaugh, who came up to London on November 9th to take part in the Lord Mayor's Show and received a cordial welcome from the public.

At Christmas, the Committee undertook the purchase and distribution of many gifts, and provided the battalions then raised with Christmas fare. It also sent several cases of provisions to the officers and men of the Bermuda Contingent attached to the Lincolnshire Regiment in France.

The Committee provided bugles and instruments for a drum and fife band for each battalion of the regiment raised. It also furnished cricket and football requisites, and other games. These appear to be greatly appreciated by all ranks.

At the close of the period under review the King approved the design of a Regimental Badge submitted to His Majesty by the Committee who decided to present cap badges to the officers,

non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment. The badge is described heraldically as "an oval bordered medallion surmounted by the Tudor crown. On the border the inscription 'The British West Indies Regiment.' Within, the ship of Christopher Columbus in full sail proper. Surrounding the oval dexter a wreath of Laurel, and sinister a wreath of Palm."

At the request of the Commanding Officers distinctive helmet flashes were supplied to all ranks of two of the battalions.

The Committee received for safe custody many packages of civilian clothing of the men of the regiment, and forwarded others to the colonies through the courtesy of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, who kindly carried them freight free.

Since the departure of the regiment to Egypt, the Committee has corresponded with the Commanding Officers and has endeavoured to meet the requirements of all ranks as far as possible. Non-commissioned officers and men invalided to this country have received special attention, and have been provided with comforts.

The Committee has kept in touch with many officers and men connected with the British West Indies who came over independently to serve in His Majesty's Forces, and has also assisted the members of the Trinidad Merchants' and Barbados Citizens' Contingents in many ways. It repatriated three men of the first-named contingent who had been invalided out of the Army, and provided them with board and lodging pending their departure.

At a meeting held on November 29th at 5, Trevor Square, S.W., which Mr. (now Sir) Richard Burbidge of Harrods Ltd., placed at the disposal of the Committee, free of rent, a Ladies' Committee was inaugurated under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, who was present on this occasion, and with the Countess of Stamford as President.

A Working Committee was formed with Lady Philipps as Chairman, the other members being Lady Davson, Lady Hodgson, Lady Olivier, Lady Grey-Wilson and Miss Mary Moseley, who was appointed Hon. Secretary.

At the request of this Committee, Lady Grey-Wilson and Miss Moseley visited Seaford Camp and Hospital, and reported as to the requirements of the non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment stationed there. It was subsequently decided to organise work-parties to make warm clothing, etc., and Lady Philipps having kindly offered to have them at her residence, they were held there throughout the winter. Through the generosity of Lady Philipps some hundreds of garments were added to those made by the work-parties, and many kind friends in this country and in the

British West Indies supplied comforts. The Committee was, therefore, able to supply warm gloves, woollen helmets, mittens, &c., to all men requiring them during the winter, besides bed-jackets, pyjamas and flannel shirts to the men in hospital.

Socks have been sent to the men of the British West Indies Regiment, and many West Indians in other regiments have been regularly supplied with them. The anti-vermin underclothing made by the work-parties has been a source of great comfort to men in the trenches. The increasing demand for these garments necessitated the continuance of work at Trevor Square during the summer. The Ladies' Committee has received very material assistance from Lady Hayes-Sadler's Eastern League, which for many weeks held special working parties for the West Indians at their Indian Room at Whiteley's, and has in other ways given valuable help.

Besides providing comforts, the Ladies' Committee has dispensed a fund sent by the ladies of Antigua for hampers for West Indians at the front, and has supplied many parcels of dainties to men in hospital in England and abroad. Many sick and wounded men have been visited in hospital and supplied with cigarettes and tobacco, reading matter, writing materials, games, &c., and assistance has been rendered to them in various ways. Men arriving from the West Indies to enlist have been supplied with warm clothing, those discharged have received help before their return home, and men on leave have been taken to the several Clubs for overseas soldiers and other places of interest.

In April Lady Davson was appointed Chairman of the Working Committee of the Ladies' Committee in succession to Lady Philipps who felt compelled to resign in consequence of the many calls upon her time.

In bringing this interim report to a close the Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of the help rendered to them by the Director General of Voluntary Organisations of Scotland House, S.W., who furnished much warm clothing for distribution at short notice, and by the body known as "Smokes Soldiers Sailors" of 4, Buckingham Gate, S.W., which enabled it to distribute cigarettes and tobacco among men in hospital at a minimum cost. It also desires to acknowledge with thanks offers of hospitality from the Union Jack Club, Peel House and to Victoria League Clubs, of which many men from the West Indies have availed themselves.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.

September, 1916.

THE WEST INDIAN

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Donations					4,308	9	4
Do. for Special Purposes					974	13	6
(NOTE.—Disbursed up to date		880	9	6			
Remaining in hand, included in Cash at Bank)		94	4	0			
		<u>£974 13 6</u>					
Interest on Deposit and Discount on Treasury Bills					58	14	6
Balance, 30th June, 1916, made up thus:—							
Treasury Bills (£2,000) costing		1,952	2	1			
Cash at Union of London & Smith's Bank, Ltd., on Current Account		533	7	9			
Cash at Union of London & Smith's Bank, Ltd., on Deposit Account		1,250	0	0			
Cash with Harrods Ltd.		5	7	7			
Cash in Hand		2	17	8			
Cash in Hand (Ladies' Committee)		7	18	11			
Sums Recoverable		3	11	9			
		<u>3,755 5 9</u>					
Less—Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent		188	7	4			
		<u>£3,566 18 5</u>					
					<u>£5,341 17 4</u>		

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C.,
4th August, 1916.

CONTINGENT FUND.

PAYMENTS TO 30th JUNE, 1916.

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Clothing and Comforts		168	11	10			
Gifts to Men in Hospital		14	2	11			
Gifts of Tobacco and Cigarettes		10	2	11			
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough		17	9	6			
Christmas Gifts		71	1	1			
Concerts at Seaford Camp		22	0	0			
Musical Instruments for British West Indies Regiment		213	1	11			
Sporting Requisites for British West Indies Regiment		111	16	8			
Typewriter, &c., for British West Indies Regiment		21	18	0			
Contributions towards Regimental Funds		30	0	0			
Carriage of Men's Effects		11	12	1			
Motor Ambulance, Insurance and Petrol		9	2	4			
Expenses of Contingent at Lord Mayor's Show		5	8	5			
Cost of Repatriation of Three Men of Trinidad Merchants' Contingent invalidated from Army		39	18	3			
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions							746 5 11
Clerical Assistance and Hire of Typewriter		43	14	6			
Postage		31	17	8			
Printing and Stationery		23	14	1			
Travelling Expenses		7	16	6			
Furniture (per Ladies' Committee)		29	5	10			
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries		11	14	11			
							148 3 6
Balance (see per contra)							3,566 18 5
							<u>£5,341 17 4</u>

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

Chartered Accountants, } Hon. Auditors.

Pricewaterhouse & Co

1916

WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

An Interim Report adopted.

1916
 A meeting of the Executive of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held in the Conference Room at the Colonial Office on Friday, September 22nd. Sir Everard im Thurn presided, and the members present included Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., Sir Charles Lucas, Sir Frederic Hodgson, Sir Sydney Olivier, Sir William Grey-Wilson, Mr. Edward R. Davson, Mr. William Gillespie, Mr. G. Moody Stuart, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. R. Rutherford, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. Secretary. Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Mr. J. F. N. Green, Chief Clerk of the West India Department of the Colonial Office, were also present.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Bonar Law, Secretary of State for the Colonies, regretting his inability to attend the meeting of the Committee and taking the opportunity of tendering his thanks for the personal care and kindness the members of the Committee had shown to men of the West Indian Contingent, which would strengthen the bonds uniting the West India colonies to the mother country.

Specimens of the Regimental Badge approved by the King were shown, and the Chairman said that the badges, which were being presented by the Committee, would shortly be ready for distribution to officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment.

The Chairman then said :

I have now to move that the report of the Executive of the West Indian Contingent Committee for the ten months ended June 30th be adopted and circulated among the subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund. We are all aware, though perhaps the general public may not be, of the circumstances in which the West Indian Contingent Committee and the Fund were established. Soon after the War broke out, a considerable number of young men of military age began to come over here from the West Indies to enlist in His Majesty's Forces or to get commissions in various regiments. This led several of the West Indian Colonies to make offers of contingents. At that time it was not thought desirable, in view of the possibility of the enemy making raiding attacks on the British West Indies, that too large a number of men of military age should leave the islands. When the danger of raids was at an end, as very soon it was, the conditions and the position were different; the offers of contingents were renewed, and the Army Council considered them, with the result that it was arranged that the separate contingents should be combined into one representing the whole of the West India Islands and adjoining British territory. The arrangement was carried out in accordance with the wishes of the War Office, and from a military point of view I have no doubt was a good one. From another point of view also I think it was fortunate, because those who have followed the story will agree that it was a wonderful instance—the first in history, I think—of the whole of the several West Indian Colonies working in harmony. There will be many benefits arising out of the War, and it will be a great benefit to the West Indies if they are taught to work in harmony. Undoubtedly that will be a great gain—a great step towards the realisation of the desire for a federated West Indies with power to act as a strong unit of Empire.

As soon as the Contingent became the British West Indies Regiment—which some people confuse with the old West India Regiment—and while it was being formed, the patriotism of the people actively displayed itself, not only in generous gifts of money, but in the service of

young men. If you follow the records in the CIRCULAR you will find that the West Indies sent not only every man they could spare, but every man they could, for active service, and evinced a patriotism equal to that of any other part of the Empire. In addition to the men joining the Regiment, a stream of volunteers came over to this country independently at their own expense, or at the expense of merchants and traders in the Islands, to join regiments here.

The Committee was established in the first instance to look after the personal wants and take care to provide reasonable comforts for the men of the Regiment, but soon it extended its operations to men outside the Regiment, for whom we now do the same as for the men of the Contingent. The Bermuda Contingent came over before the Committee was in existence. They were chiefly veterans; they were attached to a unit of the British Army, in which they have fought ever since, and we got into touch with them also.

As regards the welfare of the men of the Contingent who came over, I think, if we knew all, we should be fairly well satisfied. They came over requiring training, and this they got in England at Seaford, where the climate did not altogether suit them, and then they were moved to Plymouth. If there was one fault to be found, it would be that there was felt a certain amount of impatience at being kept so long in the training camp; but I am glad to say of those of them who got their chance and have been in the fighting that they stand the shell-fire very well indeed. Others, still in training, will follow in due course.

The Contingent Funds.

Just a word on the Accounts, as to which perhaps the Honorary Treasurers may have more to say. You will see from the audited statement that if a considerable sum has been subscribed, we have in ten months expended a small proportion comparatively. It may seem a large balance to be kept in hand, but it is not too large; indeed, it is not big enough when you remember that the time for the greatest call upon the Fund has not yet come. It will come when sick and wounded come over in considerable numbers. Then we shall begin to want more and more money. So we shall again immediately after the War, when men are waiting to return to their homes in the West Indies; then we must have funds to provide them with reasonable necessities.

I now beg to move that the report be adopted and circulated among subscribers.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, in seconding the motion, said that he was quite sure from personal knowledge that the people of the West Indies were proud that the men of military age who had gone from their midst should be standing shoulder to shoulder with those gallant soldiers of whose glorious deeds one read daily in the newspapers.

The welding together of the various units from the West Indies into a homogeneous force would have established a bond of fellowship which should bring nearer a solution of the problem of a closer federation of the West Indies.

The Committee were indebted to their Honorary Secretary, Mr. Aspinall, for the manner in which he had unreservedly given the benefit of his knowledge of the West Indies and for his unbending energy, upon which the Committee had so freely drawn.

The Contingent "doing good work."

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD said that he had received good reports of the work of the Contingent from a friend at the Front, and yesterday he was talking to a very high official at the War Office, and without revealing any secret he might repeat what that official said—that "the West Indies Regiment was doing real good work." When that was said they might be sure that duty was being done in a way of which they might be proud.

He had been in touch with officials, and knew that every attention was given to the health of the men, and that they had the comforts they ought to have. In respect to rations, the War Office had given instructions that would put right any little difficulty that might arise.

The Chairman had referred to the balance, and he agreed that it was not too large. Up to the present the men had been supplied with what they wanted, and, speaking from experience, he could say that it was essen-

tial to keep a sufficiently large balance in hand until the end of the War. There would be sure to be hard cases that came outside regulations, and the Committee ought to keep sufficient money in hand to meet such cases and to help men when waiting to get home.

He had seen a letter in which an officer of the battalion referred to the West Indian men as very steady under heavy shell fire, and there was reason to be proud of them.

The Accounts summarised.

MR. R. RUTHERFORD said that the Committee was much indebted to Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. for consenting to act as Hon. Auditors of the West Indian Contingent Fund. He then proceeded to summarise the items of the receipts and expenditure. The donations received had, he said, amounted to £4,308 9s. 4d., making, with £974 13s. 6d. earmarked for special purposes, and interest on deposit and discount on Treasury Bills, a total of £5,341 17s. 4d. Against this, £746 5s. 11d. had been expended on the purchase of comforts, Christmas gifts, band instruments, and sporting requisites and gratuities to men on furlough. Of the sums specially earmarked, £880 9s. 6d. had been expended, whilst the working expenses and establishment charges were £148 3s. 6d. only, from which it would be gathered that the fund had been managed economically. With regard to the future, they must expect greater demands on the Fund in view of the present disposition of the units of the British West Indies Regiment, and to the increasing number of casualties among those who have so gallantly come over from the British West Indies to serve their King and Empire. He trusted, therefore, that liberal subscriptions would continue to come forward, so that our West Indian friends might be as well supported and cared for as the troops from the great Dominions.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER said that, according to his ideas, and looking at the figures, there was not at all a liberal fund for carrying out its purposes, and if there were casualties in proportion to the numbers in the Contingent on active service he anticipated that it would be necessary to make another appeal, and increase the balance before they could wind up their trust.

THE CHAIRMAN said he was not allowed to disclose the actual number, but, roughly speaking, many thousand men had been recruited in the West Indies, and, taking into consideration the many who came over independently, it would be under rather than over the mark to say that there were 8,000 or 9,000 men who might be in such circumstances as to need some help from the Contingent Committee.

The motion was agreed to, and, a vote of thanks to the Chairman having, on the motion of Sir Charles Lucas, been carried unanimously, the proceedings terminated.

Everard in Thwm. 5. 11. 18

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

1	West India Committee ledger	1928-1932
1	" " " "	1933-1935
1	" " " Attendance Book	
1	" " " Cost of Circular	16.3.1922 - 12.11.1931
	Balance Sheets 1897 - 1939	
	Contingent Minute Book 1914 - 1918.	
1	West India Committee Receipt Book	A29,001 - A 30,000.
1	" " " Paying-In Book	
1	War Services	" " "

The King was graciously pleased to accept a specimen of the cap badge which was presented by the Committee to the Regiment.

It had been the intention of the Committee to present a specially designed box of chocolates bearing the regimental badge to each officer, non-commissioned officer and man of the Regiment. But whilst the boxes sent to France safely reached their destination, those despatched to Egypt failed to do so since they were in a vessel which was mined. These chocolate boxes were, however, salvaged, and it is hoped that they will eventually reach the battalions for which they were intended.

The Committee was successful in getting into touch with many of the men who came over independently or with the Trinidad Merchants' and Barbados Citizens' Contingents. Besides assisting these men with advice where needed, it has been the policy of the Committee to provide them with board and lodging at the Peel House Club, the Victoria League Overseas Club, the Union Jack Club, or the Y.M.C.A. when on furlough or after discharge from hospital.

The Committee was authorised to act, and has since been acting, as a Central Authority for the control and distribution of dutiable gifts to men from the British West Indies serving in British regiments stationed in this country.

Full directions as to the despatch of gifts to officers and men overseas were circulated in the West Indies, and at Christmas the Committee arranged for the purchase of gifts on behalf of representative bodies in several of the Colonies.

The Committee desires to record its thanks to the West India Committee for continuing to place its organisation and offices at its disposal, and to Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. for having kindly consented to act as Hon. Auditors to The West Indian Contingent Fund.

Edward van Thurn Chairman.
J. M. Stodderson Deputy-Chairman.
Algernon L. Osprey Hon. Secretary.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C. 3.

June 5th, 1917.

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at 30th June, 1916	.. .. .				3,566	18	5
Donations	.. .. .				697	16	8
Do. for Special Purposes	.. .. .				645	14	7
NOTE.—Balance in hand 30th June, 1916		£94	4	0			
Amount received as above		645	14	7			
		739	18	7			
Less Expended this half-year		335	15	0			
Remaining in hand, included in							
Cash at Bank		£404	3	7			
Interest on Deposit and Discount on Treasury Bills	.. .. .				71	11	7
Balance, 30th June, 1916, made up thus:—							
Treasury Bills (£2,000) costing	.. .. .	1,945	2	11			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Current Account	.. .. .	693	19	4			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Deposit Account	.. .. .	1,250	0	0			
Cash with Harrods Ltd.	.. .. .	1	8	11			
Cash in Hand	.. .. .	2	2	7			
Cash in Hand (Ladies' Committee)	.. .. .	0	4	0			
Sums Recoverable	.. .. .	13	11	7			
		3,906	9	4			
Less—Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others							
Outstanding for Xmas Gifts to B.W.I. Regiment	.. .. .	£180	15	5			
		292	6	4			
		473	1	9			
		£3,433	7	7			
					£4,982	1	3

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C.,
2nd May, 1917.

CONTINGENT FUND.

for Half-year ended 31st December, 1916.

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Clothing and Comforts				87	19	0
Gifts to Men in Hospital				45	10	3
Gifts of Tobacco and Cigarettes				29	12	4
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough				47	0	10
Gifts to Prisoners of War				4	13	1
Christmas Gifts of Chocolate, &c.				350	19	3
Musical Instruments for British West Indies Regiment				82	14	10
Cap Badges for British West Indies Regiment				141	11	7
Typewriters, &c., for British West Indies Regiment				38	5	4
Carriage of Men's Effects				0	11	6
Entertaining Men at Lord Mayor's Show, &c.				7	17	7
Cost of Repatriation of Men invalided from Army				71	4	9
Set of False Teeth				4	0	0
Funeral Expenses				27	3	0
					934	3	4
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions					335	15	0
Clerical Assistance and Hire of Typewriter				167	9	9
Postage				54	2	5
Printing and Stationery				25	11	0
Travelling Expenses				6	18	7
General Expenses				22	12	0
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries				2	1	7
					278	15	4
Balance (see per contra)				3,433	7	7

Sydney Oliver
R. Rutherford
Edward

Hon. Treasurers.

£4,982 1 3

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants, } Hon. Auditors.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended December 31st, 1916.

The Committee begs to submit to subscribers to The West Indian Contingent Fund the audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the six months ended December 31st, 1916.

During the period under review further donations to the amount of £697 16s. 8d. were received, bringing the total of the Fund to £5,006 6s. An additional sum of £645 14s. 7d. was received for expenditure in accordance with the specific directions of the donors, bringing the total amount thus earmarked to £1,620 8s. 1d. On December 31st the balance to the credit of the Contingent Fund was £3,433 7s. 7d. apart from sums received for special purposes.

On October 16th The West Indian Contingent Committee was duly registered by the Common Council of the City of London under the provisions of Section 1 of the War Charities Act, 1916.

Since the last Report was issued the work of the Committee has greatly increased, and has been extended in several directions.

The Committee received great assistance from the Ladies' Committee, whose Hon. Secretary, Miss Moseley, has been indefatigable. Through the work parties and individual effort, and with the help of the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations and the Jamaica Contingents Fund, the Committee has been able to distribute many hundreds of anti-verminous garments, socks, mufflers, &c., which have been in constant demand.

Games, musical instruments and comforts were provided for each of the new battalions of the British West Indies Regiment as it was raised, and cigarettes, socks, mufflers, &c., were sent to individual men in the field and in hospital when needed.

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at 30th June, 1916	.. .. .				3,566	18	5
Donations	.. .. .				697	16	8
Do. for Special Purposes	.. .. .				645	14	7
NOTE.—Balance in hand 30th June, 1916		£94	4	0			
Amount received as above		615	14	7			
Less Expended this half-year		739	18	7			
Remaining in hand, included in		335	15	0			
Cash at Bank		£406	3	7			
Interest on Deposit and Discount on Treasury Bills	.. .. .				71	11	7
Balance, 30th June, 1916, made up thus:—							
Treasury Bills (£2,000) costing	.. .. .	1,945	2	11			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Current Account	.. .. .	693	19	4			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Deposit Account	.. .. .	1,250	0	0			
Cash with Harrods Ltd.	.. .. .	1	8	11			
Cash in Hand	.. .. .	2	2	7			
Cash in Hand (Ladies' Committee)	.. .. .	0	4	0			
Sums Recoverable	.. .. .	13	11	7			
		3,906	9	4			
Less—Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others		£180	15	5			
Outstanding for Xmas Gifts to B.W.I. Regiment		292	6	4			
		473	1	9			
		£3,433	7	7			
		£4,982	1	3			

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C.,
2nd May 1917.

CONTINGENT FUND.

for Half-year ended 31st December, 1916.

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Clothing and Comforts	.. .. .	87	19	0			
Gifts to Men in Hospital	.. .. .	45	10	3			
Gifts of Tobacco and Cigarettes	.. .. .	29	12	4			
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough	.. .. .	47	0	10			
Gifts to Prisoners of War	.. .. .	4	13	1			
Christmas Gifts of Chocolate, &c.	.. .. .	350	19	3			
Musical Instruments for British West Indies Regiment	.. .. .	82	14	10			
Cap Badges for British West Indies Regiment	.. .. .	141	11	7			
Typewriter, &c., for British West Indies Regiment	.. .. .	33	5	4			
Carriage of Men's Effects	.. .. .	0	11	6			
Entertaining Men at Lord Mayor's Show, &c.	.. .. .	7	17	7			
Cost of Repatriation of Men invalided from Army	.. .. .	71	4	9			
Set of False Teeth	.. .. .	4	0	0			
Funeral Expenses	.. .. .	27	3	0			
					934	3	4
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions					335	15	0
Clerical Assistance and Hire of Typewriter	.. .. .	167	9	9			
Postage	.. .. .	54	2	5			
Printing and Stationery	.. .. .	25	11	0			
Travelling Expenses	.. .. .	6	18	7			
General Expenses	.. .. .	22	12	0			
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	.. .. .	2	1	7			
					278	15	4
Balance (see per contra)	.. .. .				3,433	7	7
					£4,982	1	3

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

Paul Waterhouse
Chartered Accountants, } Hon. Auditors.

1917

THE CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

1917

A meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held at the West Indian Club on Tuesday, June 5th, to consider a Draft Report and audited Accounts for the six months ended December 31st last.

Sir Everard in Thurn, K.C.M.G., C.B., Chairman, presided, and those members also present were:—Col. Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir Francis Fleming, K.C.M.G.; Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G.; Mr. A. Elder, Mr. W. Gillespie, Mr. W. A. M. Goode, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. R. Rutherford, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall (Hon. Secretary).

In moving the Report and Accounts, the Chairman stated that the former, though necessarily formal, represented much steady, hard work on the part of the Staff and Ladies' Committee, which he believed was not only appreciated by the Officers and men from the West Indies, but also by their relations and friends. All now realised that the War had of necessity to be carried on under a veil of secrecy, and this unobtrusiveness of the machinery of the Great War prevailed also in the hard work of the Committee. When the time came for a report of the complete work to be presented it would, if he were not very much mistaken, prove to have been a valuable factor in alleviating the strain and hardship inalienable from the lot of those who had come from the West Indies to join in the fight for the Empire. There might be some who were a little impatient that greater publicity had not been given to the valuable work performed by the British West Indies Regiment; but it must be remembered that of all units in the now innumerable Forces of the Allies, it was only given to a few to have the good fortune of doing some great and brilliant thing which was made conspicuous by mention. If it had not yet been the fortune of the West Indian soldiers to achieve such fame, this was, it might be assumed, only because they had not had the opportunity. Meanwhile they had quietly and steadily done their duty, and were doing it so well that those in authority had said that the more West Indians like those already at the Front who came over, the better it would be. Sir Everard then proceeded to give the numbers of the Contingent and details as to casualties, etc. He then dealt with the work which the Committee was doing for the large numbers of men who had come over more or less independently to enlist in various British regiments, mentioning in this connection the Barbados Citizens' Contingents and the Trinidad Merchants' Contingents, with the members of which they were now in close touch. In conclusion, he moved that the Report and Accounts be adopted and circulated among the subscribers to the Contingent Fund.

The Resolution having been seconded by Mr. R. Rutherford and carried unanimously, a vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. for acting as Hon. Auditors to the West Indian Contingent Committee. Some arrangements as to the West Indian Flag Day having been given, the Chairman moved that the Local Committees ap-

pointed to make the arrangements in this connection be invited to act as Committees of the West Indian Contingent Committee in the West Indies. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and the General Purposes Committee having been moved by Mr. Goode and carried unanimously, the proceedings were then brought to a close.

The Committee's Half-Yearly Report.

The full report of the Committee is given below:

The Committee begs to submit to subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund the Audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the six months ended December 31st, 1916.

During the period under review further donations to the amount of £697 16s. 8d. were received, bringing the total of the Fund to £5,006 6s. An additional sum of £645 14s. 7d. was received for expenditure in accordance with the specific directions of the donors, bringing the total amount thus earmarked to £1,620 8s. 1d. On December 31st the balance to the credit of the Contingent Fund was £3,433 7s. 7d., apart from sums received for special purposes.

On October 16th the West Indian Contingent Committee was duly registered by the Common Council of the City of London under the provisions of Section 1 of the War Charities Act, 1916.

Since the last report was issued the work of the Committee has greatly increased, and has been extended in several directions. The Committee has received great assistance from the Ladies' Committee, whose Hon. Secretary, Miss Moseley, has been indefatigable. Through the work parties and individual effort, and with the help of the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations and the Jamaica Contingents Fund, the Committee has been able to distribute many hundreds of anti-verminous garments, socks, mufflers, etc., which have been in constant demand.

Games, musical instruments, and comforts were provided for each of the new battalions of the British West Indies Regiment as it was raised, and cigarettes, socks, mufflers, etc., were sent to individual men in the field and in hospital when needed.

The King was graciously pleased to accept a specimen of the cap badge which was presented by the Committee to the Regiment. It had been the intention of the Committee to present a specially designed box of chocolates bearing the regimental badge to each officer, non-commissioned officer and man of the Regiment. But whilst the boxes sent to France safely reached their destination, those despatched to Egypt failed to do so, since they were in a vessel which was mined. These chocolate boxes were, however, salvaged, and it is hoped that they will eventually reach the battalions for which they were intended.

The Committee was successful in getting into touch with many of the men who came over independently or with the Trinidad Merchants' and Barbados Citizens' Contingents. Besides assisting these men with advice where needed, it has been the policy of the Committee to provide them with board and lodging at the Peel House Club, the

Victoria League Overseas Club, the Union Jack Club, or the Y.M.C.A. when on furlough or after discharge from hospital.

The Committee was authorised to act, and has since been acting, as a Central Authority for the control and distribution of dutiable gifts to men from the British West Indies serving in British regiments stationed in this country. Full directions as to the despatch of gifts to officers and men overseas were circulated in the West Indies, and at Christmas the Committee arranged for the purchase of gifts on behalf of representative bodies in several of the Colonies.

The Committee desires to record its thanks to the West India Committee for continuing to place its organisation and offices at its disposal, and to Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. for having kindly consented to act as Hon. Auditors to the West Indian Contingent Fund.

EVERARD IM THURN, *Chairman.*

FREDERIC M. HODGSON, *Deputy-Chairman.*

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon Secretary.*

The West India Committee Rooms,
15, Seething Lane,
London, E.C. 3.

June 5th, 1917.

The accounts for the six months, which have been signed by the Hon. Treasurers, Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., C.B., and Mr. R. Rutherford, show that during the six months further donations to the extent of £697 16s. 8d. were received, together with £645 14s. 7d. earmarked for special purposes. The total outgoings amounted to £1,548 13s. 8d. The balance carried forward is £3,433 7s. 7d.

Everard im Thurn . 15.11.17

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended June 30th 1917.

The Committee begs to submit to subscribers to The West Indian Contingent Fund the audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the six months ended June 30th, 1917. Its thanks are again due to Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., for kindly auditing the accounts free of charge.

During the period under review further donations to the extent of £1,145 6s. 4d. were received, bringing the total of the West Indian Contingent Fund to £4,578 13s. 11d. On June 30th the balance to the credit of the Fund was £2,471 14s. 2d. apart from the unexpended balance of certain sums received for expenditure on special purposes in accordance with the wishes of the donors.

The Report and Accounts for the preceding six months were adopted at a meeting held at the West Indian Club, through the courtesy of the Committee of that Institution, on June 5th last.

The numerical strength of the British West Indies Regiment was increased during the period under review to a figure far beyond that originally contemplated, and as each new Battalion was raised the Committee placed itself in touch with the Commanding Officer with a view of meeting requirements in respect of badges, games, comforts, etc., and of providing for the welfare of all ranks generally.

The Committee co-operated still more closely with the Ladies' Committee, whose headquarters were transferred on April 11th to 15, Seething Lane, the premises at 5, Trevor Square being no longer available. The Committee take this opportunity of recording their regret at the death of Sir Richard Burbidge, who so kindly granted to them the use of the premises at Trevor Square.

A proposal to hold a flag day throughout the British West Indies in aid of the Contingent Fund was approved and the Secretary of State for the Colonies kindly consented to transmit a cablegram to the Governors of the various British West Indian Colonies inviting them to organise Committees of Ladies to make the necessary arrangements in this connection locally. It will be noted that the expenditure on the purchase of flags and badges for despatch to the Colonies amounting to £586 7s. 10d. appears in the accounts of the half-year. The proceeds of their sale will be recorded in subsequent accounts.

The Committee is pleased to report that the chocolate boxes, referred to in last report, forming part of its Christmas gift to the British West Indies Regiment, ultimately reached their destinations overseas where they appear to have given much satisfaction to the recipients.

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

CONTINGENT FUND.

for Half-year ended 30th June, 1917.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at 31st December, 1916	.. .. .				3,433	7	7
Further Donations received	.. .. .				1,145	6	4
Do. do. for Special Purposes	.. .. .				80	13	6
Norm.—Balance in hand 31st December, 1916	£404 3 7						
Amount received as above	80 13 6						
	484 17 1						
Less Expended this half-year	486 16 8						
	£58 0 5						
Interest on Deposit and Discount on Treasury Bills	.. .. .				71	19	6
Repatriation Expenses recovered	.. .. .				80	0	0
Flag-day Receipts to date	.. .. .				15	1	6
Balance, 30th June, 1917, made up thus:—							
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Current Account (including £2,000, proceeds of Treasury Bills redeemed in June and since reinvested)	.. .. .	2,437	10	3			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Deposit Account	.. .. .	250	0	0			
Cash in Hand	.. .. .	2	18	1			
Do. (Ladies' Committee)	.. .. .	5	15	3			
Sums Recoverable	.. .. .	102	2	2			
		2,798	5	9			
Less—Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	.. .. .	£197	12	1			
Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	.. .. .	128	19	6			
		326	11	7			
		£2,471	14	2			
					£4,826	8	5

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 3,
29 Octr. 1917.

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Clothing and Comforts	.. .. .	315	11	7			
Gifts to Men in Hospital	.. .. .	72	0	11			
Do. of Tobacco and Cigarettes	.. .. .	92	10	7			
Do. to Men on Sick Furlough	.. .. .	253	16	6			
Do. to Prisoners of War	.. .. .	0	15	8			
Christmas Gifts of Chocolate (balance)	.. .. .	63	15	0			
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	.. .. .	32	11	2			
Do. Cap Badges	do. do.	97	11	5			
Do. Typewriters, &c.,	do. do.	40	7	3			
Carriage of Men's Effects	.. .. .	4	16	9			
Entertaining Men	.. .. .	3	16	6			
Cost of Repatriation of Men invalided from Army	.. .. .	42	14	4			
Sporting Outfits	.. .. .	23	11	10			
Flag-day Expenditure	.. .. .	586	7	10			
		1,630	7	4			
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions		426	16	8			
Clerical Assistance and Hire of Typewriter	.. .. .	126	9	10			
Postages & Cablegrams	.. .. .	84	17	0			
Printing and Stationery	.. .. .	18	7	10			
Travelling Expenses	.. .. .	3	10	9			
General Expenses	.. .. .	52	11	1			
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	.. .. .	11	13	9			
		297	10	3			
Balance (see per contra)	.. .. .	2,471	14	2			
					£4,826	8	5

Hon. Treasurers.

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

Wm Waterhouse & Co.
Chartered Accountants, } Hon. Auditors.

It will be recalled that the Committee was formed to provide for the welfare of the Bermudian as well as the West Indian Contingent; but early in the year a separate Bermuda Contingent Committee was established to administer certain funds authorised by the House of Assembly of Bermuda and the responsibilities of the Contingent Committee were lightened accordingly. On March 1st the Committee received from His Excellency Lieut.-General Sir George Bullock, K.C.B., the then Governor of Bermuda, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the expression of his Government's deep appreciation of its services with the request that it should continue to assist as opportunity offered.

In Trinidad a Ladies' Committee was formed with Lady Chancellor as President, Mrs. Gordon Gordon, Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer, and Mrs. John Wilson, Hon. Secretary; and Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Bernard, Mrs. Vincent Brown, Mrs. Rapsey, Mrs. Geddes Grant, Mrs. Hancock, Mrs. Juggins and Miss Sellier as members to co-operate with and assist the Committee in London. The Trinidad Ladies' Committee collected during the six months, and transmitted £650 towards the Contingent Fund besides many comforts, and they further helped the Committee by putting it into touch with men from their Colony who were serving with the Colours.

Within the compass of this Report it is not possible to record all the cases in which the Committee have afforded assistance and advice to men in His Majesty's Forces, nor would it for obvious reasons be desirable to do so. It must, therefore, suffice to state that both by correspondence and personal interviews it has been the constant endeavour of the Committee to protect the interests of not only all ranks of the British West Indies Regiment but also of Officers and men who have come over independently to serve their King and Empire.

Further reinforcements of the independent Trinidad Merchants and Barbados Citizens Contingents arrived in England and the Hon. Secretary has once arranged for the enlistment of the men who are now being looked after by the Committee.

The number of visitors to the West India Committee Rooms showed a notable increase, and the Committee continued its policy of providing board and lodging for men discharged from hospital, on furlough or on draft leave at one of the various clubs and hostels enumerated in the preceding report.

Sick and wounded men in hospital were visited and provided with comforts, and the Committee, acting on behalf of parents and relatives, collected and forwarded to the Colonies the personal effects of many who laid down their lives for their country.

1917

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

MEETING AT THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

A successful half-year.

1917
A meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held at the Colonial Office, Downing Street, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 15th, to consider the report and accounts for the six months ended June 30th last.

Sir Everard in Thurn, Chairman, presided, and those present included His Excellency Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, Governor of Jamaica; Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lord Glenconner, Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Sir George Le Hunte, Sir James Hayes-Sadler, Sir Owen Philipps, M.P., Sir Robert Llewelyn, Sir Frederic Hodgson, Deputy-Chairman; Sir William Grey-Wilson, Mr. Alexander Fiddian, Chief Clerk, West Indian Department of the Colonial Office; Mr. R. Rutherford, Chairman of the West India Committee; Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G.; Mr. W. Gillispie, Mr. E. R. Davson, Mr. J. Rippon, Chairman of the Bermuda Committee; Lieut.-Colonel A. W. M. Wilson, Major A. de Boissiere and Major J. V. Kirkland, of the British West Indies Regiment, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. Secretary. Owing to a mistake as to the date, Sir Sydney Olivier was unfortunately prevented from attending.

Moving the adoption of the report and accounts, Sir Everard in Thurn called attention to the peculiarly personal nature of the work which was being performed by those who were actually carrying out the objects of the Committee, and added that their success was in no small measure due to the exercise of just the right kind of personal touch.

In the now vast armies of the Empire—astounding in size, in the way in which the great host had rolled itself together, and in the infinite variety of the folk that composed it—the West Indians, perhaps, occupied a peculiar place—not merely as men from the tropics fighting side by side with their European confrères, but also as distinguished from their native confrères by great difference of history.

The Committee had no direct concern with the military control and discipline of the West Indies Regiment. But it was satisfactory to be able to add that whenever they had ventured to call attention to points in which it seemed that the military control of these West Indian troops might be somewhat differently managed, the suggestions put forward had been carefully considered, and in many cases adopted. He wished to add that the General Purposes Committee had lately had the advantage of hearing from Sir William Manning, the present Governor of Jamaica, whom he was glad to welcome among them that afternoon, that during his recent inspection of the many West Indian troops now in the Western Area of War he had found the men to be contented and happy, highly appreciated not only by their own officers but also by the Officers of the Higher Command.

The members of the British West Indies Regiment were drawn from every West Indian Colony, and were now distributed over almost every fighting area—including Palestine—where the 1st and 2nd Battalions had been in the firing line during the recent successful operations—in Egypt and on the Western Front. Everywhere they had acquitted themselves well, bravely and usefully, and had won the enthusiastic praises of their Commanding Officers.

In addition to the thousands, who were the Committee's original clients, all recruited and sent "home" by the Colonial Governments, there were many hundreds—perhaps even thousands—of others who had also come home, either at their own expense or at that of other equally patriotic but older folk resident in the West Indies, and had enlisted, or obtained commissions, in British Regiments or in the Royal Navy, who claimed and received the services of the Committee's active workers. These, because the most scattered and therefore the most difficult to draw into the necessarily personal relations, also claimed, and received, a full share of attention. At first the difficulty was to get into touch with the individuals coming over to serve; but the list of visitors to the West India Committee Rooms afforded sufficient evidence that this difficulty had been overcome. And for most effective help in bringing these individual soldiers into touch with the workers they were greatly indebted to the Ladies' West India Committee in Trinidad, and to Mr. G. F. Huggins, and to Mr. Dudley Leacock, the founders of the Trinidad Merchants' and Barbados Citizens' Contingents respectively.

What was it that their active workers were doing for this uncountable and intangible crowd of clients? It was the providing them, individually and collectively, with all that they needed for their bodily and mental comfort, and even with all that they reasonably fancied at all times while they were "on service," either in the Field or in Hospital, and in providing them with hospitality and entertainment during their periods of leisure from military duties. And this work went on, for men and officers alike, from the very beginning to the very end of their connection with the Services. The task as a whole was a very great one, but it was made of an infinite number of small, often even trivial, details. And these services, to be really effective, must be rendered with the kindly unobtrusive, personal touch which could alone make them welcome to the recipient. It was indeed a gigantic task and one of a most delicate nature.

The Committee was most fortunate in the actual staff which carried on this work, and perhaps especially in the Ladies' Committees which here and in the West Indies did so much to make the machine run smoothly, and also in the occasional helpers who now and again when at home from the West Indies gave the work a great push forward.

In conclusion he hoped that all would agree with him that, as far as could be seen, their purposes are being effectively carried out by a host of willing workers, and he desired once more to add a word of warning that the most difficult time, financially and otherwise, would come when "it was all over bar the shouting"—and the repatriation. He begged to move:—

"That the report and accounts of the West Indian Contingent Committee for the six months ended June 30th, 1917, be and are hereby adopted."

Local Committees to be Formed.

Sir Frederic Hodgson, in seconding the motion, said that he thought the Report showed that the Committee might claim to have carefully carried out the objects for which it was brought into existence. But in saying this he desired to associate himself with the remarks that Mr. Rutherford had made as to the excellent work done for the Contingent by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Aspinall. Success was in a great measure due to his untiring energy, and to the fact that no detail escaped his notice. Referring to the Report, Sir Frederic stated that arrangements were being made for the establishment of permanent Ladies' Committees in all the West Indian Colonies. This would make the organisation more complete, and ensure a closer interest in the work of providing a supply of what was known as "comforts" for the men at the front. Good reports continued to be received of the manner in which the men of the several battalions were performing their duties, and he felt sure that if the Military Authorities required more West Indians they would be readily forthcoming. Sir Frederic, in conclusion, referred to the Honours won by the men of the Contingent, which consisted of 1 Military Cross, 12 Military Medals and 2 Royal Humane Society's Medals.

Mr. Rutherford, Hon. Treasurer, then dealt with the accounts, prefacing his remarks by asking the meeting to approve a resolution thanking Messrs. Price, Waterhouse

and Co., for their services as Hon. Auditors, which was agreed to unanimously. During the period under review donations amounting to £1,145 6s. 4d. had, he said, been received, bringing the total of the fund to £6,151 12s. 4d. apart from sums received for expenditure on special purposes, as for example the "Southern War Fund" of £550 forwarded by Mrs. Hobson and friends at San Fernando, which had been entrusted to Mr. Aspinall for administration. Among notable amounts received should be included over £1,000 collected by Mrs. Gordon and the Ladies' West India Committee in Trinidad, and £435 from the Jamaica War Contingent Committee, and it would be noted from the lists appearing in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR that several residents in St. Vincent had established an excellent precedent in forwarding monthly contributions to the Fund through the Colonial Bank. Included among the payments made was £586 7s. 10d. in connection with the West India Flag Days, and he might mention that since June 30th the following contributions had been received as the result of the observance of the days: British Guiana, £1,012 11s. 7d.; Barbados, £525 3s. 6d.; Trinidad and Tobago, £257 12s. 8d.; St. Vincent, £210 4s. 4d.; St. Kitts-Nevis, £138 8s. 6d.; Antigua, £119 7s. 8d.; Montserrat, £60; and St. Lucia, £56 13s. 1d. He wished to pay tribute to the excellent and devoted work of Miss Moseley and the staff: he had frequent opportunities of seeing the good work that was being done at the West India Committee Rooms, and was much impressed with the energy and whole-heartedness displayed. He wished also to especially ask the thanks of the Committee to Mr. Aspinall; he was a true friend to all the brave boys from the West Indies who came to him for help, guidance and advice, and that such was appreciated had been shown by the letters received from them from time to time.

Sir William Manning's Remarks.

Sir Everard then invited Sir William Manning, Governor of Jamaica, to say a few words, and his Excellency, referring to his recent visit to the Front, said that on all hands the work which was being performed by the British West Indies Regiment was regarded in every way as satisfactory. The men were behaving extraordinarily well and were excellent friends with the British soldiers. He found the Battalions fully provided for in respect of warm clothing, etc., and what would be most acceptable would be comforts from their own Colonies, such as sweet things, ginger, etc. General Officers, Commanding Officers, and Company Officers all testified to the excellent bearing of the men under fire, and it was noteworthy that they were in no way affected by the very heavy casualties. One officer in the artillery had told him that where a white man could handle three tons in a day, a West Indian could move five tons. Officers and men alike were extremely grateful for all that the Committee had done and was doing for them.

Colonel Sir Edward Ward then moved:—

"That the thanks of the Committee be accorded to those ladies and gentlemen in the British West Indies who have kindly organised Flag Days on behalf of the West Indian Contingent Fund, and to the Public and Press in those Colonies for their generous support."

The Flag Day had, he said, so far proved very successful, receipts having amounted to £2,518 19s. 8d. against an expenditure of £680 1s. 5d. leaving a net profit of £1,838 18s. 3d. with results from Jamaica, Dominica, Grenada and the Bahamas still to come. It would, however, be necessary to continue to strengthen the Contingent Fund as it was certain that the calls upon it would become very heavy later on. It was necessary to think not only of the present but of the future, and no War Office, however generous, could meet the enormous claims which were certain to arise at the end of the War.

The Resolution was seconded by Sir George Le Hunte, who said that Sir William Manning's remarks would prove very encouraging to the West Indies, and was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

A Resolution, moved by Lord Glenconner, confirming the arrangements made by the General Purposes Committee for clerical assistance having been approved, Major

de Boissiere, Commanding a Battalion of the British West Indies Regiment, said that he wished to take the opportunity of saying how much all ranks appreciated the work of the West Indian Contingent Committee. Every letter received was like a ray of sunshine, and sunshine was none too prevalent in Flanders. There was nothing that he thought of that he did not ask for and nothing that he asked for that he did not get. It was helpful for men from the West Indies to have a Committee to turn to when they were in doubt or difficulty or when they required assistance.

Lieut.-Colonel A. Wilson, on leave from Egypt, endorsed Major de Boissiere's remarks. He was, he said, in touch with men of all Battalions, and reports regarding the Regiment were unanimously satisfactory. From what he knew of the two Battalions which had been in the firing line in Egypt, he was quite certain that they had rendered a good account of themselves. The West Indians made splendid soldiers. They excelled also in games, at which they had simply cleared the board. Their one aim and object was to go to the Front.

Proceedings were then brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was moved by Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., M.P., and carried unanimously.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended December 31st, 1917.

The Committee begs to submit to the subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund the audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the six months ended December 31st, 1917.

During the period under review donations to the amount of £629 16s. 4d. were received and the sum of £774 6s. 0d. was entrusted to the Committee for expenditure in accordance with the specific directions of the donors. On December 31st the balance to the credit of the Contingent Fund was £3,326 14s. 5d.

The half-yearly meeting was held at the Colonial Office on November 15th and was attended by His Excellency Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., the then Governor of Jamaica, on his return from a visit to the British West Indies Regiment on the Western front.

The West Indian Flag Day, which was organised by local Committees on behalf of the West Indian Contingent Committee's Fund, was held on various dates in the undermentioned Colonies with the results as shown:—

		£	s.	d.
July 22-23	Barbados	525	3	6
July 2nd	British Guiana ..	1,012	11	7
June 30th	Trinidad	267	12	8
July 13th	Antigua	120	15	7
August 4th	St. Kitts-Nevis ..	138	8	6
July 18th	Montserrat	60	0	0
Sept. 7th	Grenada	229	0	9
August 18th	St. Lucia	56	13	1
August 1st	St. Vincent	210	4	4

At the close of the year the results from the Bahamas, Jamaica and Dominica were still awaited. The Committee is much indebted to those ladies and gentlemen who so kindly helped to make the Flag Day a success.

The volume of work undertaken by the Committee showed a further marked expansion which is reflected by the increase in the postage and cable accounts, and by the numbers of men calling at the West India Committee Rooms for assistance or advice, which is always ungrudgingly given. This latter forms no small part of the activities of the Hon. Secretary and Staff. In the opinion of the Committee this personal attention to new arrivals, to men in hospital, to men in any form of trouble or to those who are merely lonely in a strange land is one of the most useful parts of its work.

Some hundreds of parcels of comforts were sent to men at the front and in Hospital, and among the articles purchased in addition and distributed besides many hundreds of thousands of cigarettes were:—

Handkerchiefs	10,608
Soap (cakes)	16,160
Badges	2,105
Articles of Clothing ..	1,333
Writing Pads	708
Safety Razors	140
Cigarette Lighters ..	72
Hampers	48
Parcels of Fruit	44
Musical Instruments ..	50
Games	54
Typewriters	5

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at 30th June, 1917	.. .. .				2,471	14	2
Further Donations received	.. .. .				629	16	4
Do. do. for Special Purposes	.. .. .				774	6	0
Norm.—Balance in hand 30th June, 1917	..	£58	0	5			
Amount received as above	..	774	6	0			
		832	6	5			
Less Expended this half-year	..	157	10	0			
		674	16	5			
Interest on Deposit	.. .. .				30	6	6
Repatriation Expenses recovered	.. .. .				22	16	6
Flag-day Receipts to date	.. .. .				2,592	6	1
Balance, 31st December, 1917, made up thus:—							
£2,000, Treasury Bills at cost	.. .. .	1,952	2	1			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Current Account	.. .. .	112	17	3			
Cash at Union of London & Smiths Bank, Ltd., on Deposit Account	.. .. .	1,550	0	0			
Cash in Hand	.. .. .	0	4	3			
Do. (Ladies' Committee)	.. .. .	5	0	0			
Sums Recoverable	.. .. .	188	10	8			
		3,808	14	3			
Less—Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	.. .. .	£383	14	1			
Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	.. .. .	98	5	9			
		481	19	10			
		£3,326	14	5			
					£6,521	5	7

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
17th May, 1918.

CONTINGENT FUND.

for Half-year ended 31st December, 1917.

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	.. .. .	157	6	3			
Clothing and Comforts	.. .. .	482	1	11			
Contribution to Director-General of Voluntary Organizations' Fund	.. .. .	105	0	0			
Contribution to Camps' Library Fund	.. .. .	26	5	0			
Gifts to Men in Hospital	.. .. .	48	7	3			
Do. of Tobacco and Cigarettes	.. .. .	175	16	3			
Do. to Men on Sick Furlough	.. .. .	168	5	9			
Christmas Gifts of Cigarettes, Cases and Wallets	.. .. .	979	4	5			
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	.. .. .	40	14	4			
Do. Cap Badges	do. do.	53	5	4			
Do. Typewriters, &c., do. do.	.. .. .	51	2	9			
Carriage of Men's Effects	.. .. .	2	8	8			
Entertaining Men	.. .. .	10	7	2			
Cost of Repatriation of Men invalided from Army, &c.	.. .. .	118	6	8			
Dental Attention	.. .. .	10	1	0			
Sporting Outfits	.. .. .	23	7	7			
Flag-day Expenditure	.. .. .	99	13	7			
		2,551	13	11			
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions		157	10	0			
Clerical Assistance	.. .. .	251	7	7			
Postages	.. .. .	88	7	6			
Cablegrams	.. .. .	30	9	2			
Printing and Stationery	.. .. .	29	2	9			
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	.. .. .	21	8	0			
Travelling Expenses	.. .. .	5	17	3			
Advertising	.. .. .	2	8	0			
General Expenses	.. .. .	44	0	1			
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	.. .. .	12	6	11			
		485	7	3			
Balance (see opposite)	.. .. .	3,326	14	5			
					£6,521	5	7

E. W. D. WARD,
SYDNEY OLIVIER,
R. RUTHERFORD,
H. F. PREVITE, } *Hon. Treasurers.*

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO., } *Hon. Auditors.*
Chartered Accountants, }

The number of parcels sent to the Committee to be re-addressed and forwarded to their destination showed a notable increase, and the work of checking the whereabouts of the addressees, repacking the parcels which, unfortunately, is still necessary in most instances, and clearing dutiable gifts under arrangement with the Commissioners of Customs was considerable. It was not unusual for from 2,000 to 3,000 letters and parcels to be dealt with in a single month.

For the purpose of storing men's civilian clothing and effects and for packing parcels it became necessary to lease a special room.

Board and Lodging was provided for 205 men on leave, discharged from hospital, or awaiting enlistment at various clubs, including the Union Jack Club, the Y.M.C.A., the Peel House Club and the Victoria League Club, with which special arrangements have been made.

At Christmas the Committee presented Cigarette Cases bearing the regimental badge, and also cigarettes to all ranks of the British West Indies Regiment, and Pocket Wallets suitably inscribed to all officers and men who came over from the British West Indies independently, whose addresses could be traced.

Her Highness Princess Marie Louise honoured with her presence the annual meeting of the Ladies' Committee which was held at the residence of Lady Davson on November 27th, the Countess of Stamford presiding. It was reported that over 15,000 garments, etc., had been collected and distributed. The Work Parties which are now organised by Mrs. Bromley were held fortnightly and resulted in the addition of many useful articles to the supply of comforts.

The Committee acceded to all requests for badges, musical instruments, games, insecticides, etc., from Commanding Officers of the British West Indies Regiment for their respective Battalions, which were also supplied with books and magazines by arrangement with the Camps' Library to whose funds a contribution was made.

In the autumn the Committee was able to place an adequate supply of warm comforts at the disposal of each Battalion of the Regiment in France through the courtesy of the Director-General of Voluntary Organizations to whose Fund it contributed one hundred guineas.

The Committee urged that the privilege of Honorary Membership of the Royal Club for Officers from beyond the Seas enjoyed by Officers of Colonial Contingents might be extended to Officers ordinarily domiciled overseas but serving during the War in Imperial Regiments. This concession has been granted. Whilst expressing its indebtedness to the Royal Club the Committee desires also to thank the West Indian Club and the Junior Naval and Military Club which afforded hospitality to Officers from the British West Indies.

Seven further detachments of the Trinidad Merchants' and Planters' Contingent and of the Barbados Citizens' Contingent arrived in England during the period under review. The total strength of these two Contingents is now 229 and 68 men respectively. With most of these the Committee is now in personal touch. In several instances medical attendance was provided for men prior to enlistment.

EVERARD IM THURN, *Chairman.*

FREDERIC HODGSON, *Deputy-Chairman.*

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,

15, SEETHING LANE,

LONDON, E.C. 3.

17th May, 1918.

ACCOUNTS OVERLEAF.

THE CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

1918
The half-yearly meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held at the Colonial Office, Downing Street, at 4.45 p.m. on Thursday, June 6th. Sir Everard im Thurn presided, and the company present included Her Highness Princess Marie Louise, Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, Sir George Le Hunte, Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., Sir Owen Philipps, Sir Sydney Olivier, Sir William Goode, Lady Cameron, Lady Davson, Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Barchard, Major G. V. C. Gane, Mr. H. F. Previté, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. and Mrs. R. Rutherford, Mrs. Bromley, Mr. A. Fiddian, Mr. G. F. Plant, Miss Hawkes, Miss Moseley, and Mr. Algeron E. Aspinall, Hon. Sec.

Sir Everard im Thurn's Speech.

In moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts for the half-year ended December 31st, Sir Everard im Thurn said:

Before formally moving the adoption of the half-yearly report of the West Indian Contingent Committee, it is my pleasant duty to welcome, on your behalf, Princess Marie Louise and other of the ladies who, having been good enough to come to the help of the work of the actual Committee, are now kind enough to come and listen to our half-yearly talk. We are especially honoured by the presence of our Patroness.

As regards the Report (which I trust you have all seen), I shall not enter into any details as to figures—but shall leave that, important as it is, to the Treasurers, who will second this motion, and shall confine myself to a very brief statement for the purposes of this Committee.

The Committee was originally formed on 30th August, 1915, at the instance of Mr. Bonar Law—then Secretary of State for the Colonies. The first detachment of West Indian soldiers reached this country a few months later. This was of course well on in the second year of the war: and the explanation of the fact that our West Indian fellow subjects had not come sooner is simply that till then they had to stop at home to protect their own Islands from German raiders.

The object of the Committee was—to put it briefly—to look after the comfort (not the military discipline) of these then few men and to keep alive, as well as might be, the home ties of those who had come, or might come, so far to the help of the Empire. It should be remembered that from the first we undertook to watch not only the interests of the British West Indies Regiment (into which the men who were sent by the various Colonial Governments were embodied), but also (and this has proved a much more difficult task) the interests of the very numerous men who have come over independently of the Colonial Governments and have been scattered and have scattered themselves very widely through the Imperial Forces.

The Nature of the Work Done.

The Committee—or rather those that did the actual work for them—had to find ways to do an infinite number of small and great kindnesses to these strangers from distant places who were thus thrown into an entire set of circumstances quite new to them and but recently experienced by us. We undertook to look after them when in training (in camps at home and abroad); when sent on foreign service to Egypt, Mesopotamia, Palestine, Africa, France, and I hardly know where else; when in hospital, at home or abroad; when "on leave"; and under other countless circumstances.

The task thus undertaken was big, and required, at least from those who actually did the detailed work, great and continued effort, great patience, and especially great delicacy of touch.

This is not the opportunity to speak of the great mass of detail work done, and I believe very efficiently done,

by our Hon. Secretary and the staff immediately under him. But outside the office, though in connection with it, there has been much good work done—and, may I say it, there is opportunity for more—in providing comforts for the sick, in visiting the sick, and in many other ways especially calling for the delicacy and kindness of a woman's touch.

That is why we invited the Ladies' Committees, both here and in the West Indies, to come to our help. We thank them most heartily for the great and efficient help which they have already given us—and, like Oliver Twist—we ask for more. I believe that the most useful thing I can do to-day is to ask for more of that help which they alone can properly give.

Do not let anyone discourage you by telling you that all the comforts really needed by our Regiment can be and are most readily and efficiently supplied by my friend the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations. That statement, as far as it goes—and no one knows this better than I do—is true. But even that most beneficent "universal provider" cannot—and would not pretend to—supply the countless West Indians scattered through other regiments with just the things, and in just the way, that makes the soldier feel that he has friends in England. That is one part of our work which we cannot do through the Director; that, and such arduous but pleasant duties as visiting the sick, is the part of the work which we can best do through our ladies' committees.

Only may I suggest that a more complete organisation of the ladies' committees should be attempted, and a more convenient settlement of their relations to the main Committee.

Better Recognition for West Indians.

I have left myself no time to speak of other matters. But I should just like to say that a somewhat delicate and difficult task in which, by the courtesy of the Military Authorities, this main Committee has been allowed to take part is in securing better recognition for and treatment of the West Indian soldier, who though generally a man of colour, is of a very different educational and social status from the West African and some other soldiers from the Crown Colonies. I would also have liked to say something of the fact, deeply impressed on my mind, that, though we seem to have plenty of funds in hand for present purposes, we have not enough for the time of repatriation to which we are all looking forward. That, however, will, I hope, be dealt with by the later speakers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, seconding the motion, said that he was in full agreement with what the chairman had said as to the need of economising their fund. The Committee had so far been able to meet all the demands made upon it. But he knew from his experience at the War Office that cases of hardship were apt to arise which no official regulations would cover and that at the end of the war the number of men needing assistance would greatly increase. He acted as a kind of *liaison* officer between the Committee and the War Office and he could state that the value of the services of the British West Indies Regiment were very fully appreciated by the Army Council.

Our Hon. Treasurer's Speech.

MR. PREVITÉ said that he had been told that later on at the meeting his appointment as a member of the General Committee and as one of the Hon. Treasurers would be submitted for confirmation. It seemed odd, then, that prior to such confirmation he should address them on behalf of the Hon. Treasurers. That was the arrangement and he could not explain it away. However, he was co-opted as an Hon. Treasurer four months ago, and as his engagements allowed of his meeting Mr. Aspinall at an hour convenient to both four times a week, he had during those months become as interested in the work of the Committee and the administration of its funds as those who had been longer associated with it. The accounts over the signatures of the Hon. Auditors, Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., did not require explanation. But a few words summarising the four statements of the fund yet issued might be interesting. Since the opening of the fund donations on general account, *i.e.*, at the free disposal of the Committee, had amounted to £6,781.

Donations for special purposes, allocated to particular objects or for the assistance of men from a particular Colony amounted to £2,475. In addition to this, Flag Day receipts—there had only been one Flag Day for the fund and that was not in London but in the West Indies—had amounted, up to December 31st, 1917, to £2,592.

Of the total funds, roughly 25 per cent. of the total had been contributed by Trinidad—a fact of which he was proud as that was the island with which he was connected. In addition to that 25 per cent. the Hon. Secretary had been entrusted with the administration of a special fund collected by Mrs. L. M. Hobson, of San Fernando, particularly for the benefit of Trinidad men, amounting to £785.

It was a feature of the work of this Committee that they had been entrusted with no less a sum than £1,650 of what was called trust funds—money paid in by the men themselves or by relatives on their behalf. These funds were doled out as wisely as possible, and undoubtedly it was a good thing that there was always the helpful friend at 15, Seething Lane to advise men as to spending their money. Let them have a good time by all means when they did get a chance, but as wise a good time as possible.

The Committee had also loaned in all on special cases £450, of which £300 had been repaid, and the rest was regarded with a very proper spirit of helpfulness.

It must be remembered that those loans were in most cases in very small sums and each was considered individually by the Hon. Secretary.

Since the close of the year the meeting would be glad to hear that £1,242 had been received from Jamaica on account of its Flag Day—there the arrangements were under the care of Mrs. Clarence Browne, formerly of Trinidad. Further, £160 had been received from the Bahamas—not a wealthy colony—and much credit was due to the efforts of Lady Allardyce and Mrs. Menendez. The Flag Day to date in all the Colonies had shown a net profit—for even the best managed flag day entailed some expense—of £3,979.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER then rose to move the appointment of Mr. H. F. Previté as Hon. Treasurer and a member of the Committee.

It might, he said, be asked why four treasurers were needed, but he could assure them that the position was no insecure as each had his particular duties to perform. Sir Edward Ward was a great asset in contributing towards the solvency and efficiency of the Committee, while Mr. Rutherford had devoted much time and work to it, and was constantly in demand for signing cheques. He himself was, he hoped, not an inefficient understudy. But the work was increasing so enormously that it was helpful to have someone like Mr. Previté, who could be in constant touch with the Secretary. He believed that people in the West Indies would be surprised if they realised the volume of good work which was now being transacted. Since they last met, local Committees had been formed in nearly every West Indian colony.

The Jamaica Recruiting Committee.

In conclusion, Sir Sydney said that he was glad to have the opportunity of testifying to the admirable work which was being done in the West Indies in connection with the War Contingent, in the formation of which Jamaica had taken the lead through its local Recruiting Committee, to the value of the services of which body he was glad to testify.

SIR WILLIAM MANNING endorsed what Sir Sydney Olivier had said as to what was being done in the West Indies in support of the Contingents. In Jamaica there were really only two funds which appealed to the public, the Red Cross and the Contingents' Comforts Fund, and he paid a tribute to the willing band of workers who had made the local Flag Day in aid of the Contingent Fund such a success. With regard to the chairman's remarks as to the need there would be for funds after the war, he was under the impression that the Colonies would do all that was necessary for the wounded after the war.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN then pointed out that his remarks had reference to the men who had come over independently, and as an example of the calls which might

be made on the fund, he instanced the case of three young men whom the Committee had—eventually—repatriated. These men had been twice torpedoed and had once been in collision, which necessitated the provision of several outfits for them besides board and lodging over an extended period.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

LIEUT.-COL. A. E. BARCHARD, commanding a battalion of the British West Indies Regiment, who had just arrived from the Western Front, gave some account of what the Regiment had been doing. He thanked the Committee for helping to provide for the comfort of all ranks. Everything that had been asked for had been supplied, and what was needed more than anything else was games, socks and warm gloves for the winter.

MAJOR V. G. F. GANE, officer in charge of the Records of the British West Indies Regiment, said that these had been kept by a Staff of the Regiment for the past eighteen months, during which period he had been in charge of the section; great improvement had been noticed lately in the way information from the various battalions had been received. The meeting would be glad to hear that the Regiment was doing all it was being called upon to do. The 1st and 2nd Battalions had both received the congratulations of Divisional Generals and I.G.C.'s for the work they had done. The other Battalions and detachments had at various times been spoken very highly of by the Generals and other officers who had had them under their command.

Decorations Won by the B.W.I.R.

The Regiment since its formation had received many decorations, including 3 Military Crosses, 1 Distinguished Conduct Medal, 23 Military Medals, 1 Bar to Military Medal, and 6 Humane Society Medals for saving life, whilst one man had died whilst trying to save a comrade. In all thirty-two commissions have been granted to men in the Regiment, and many men had received personal congratulations from the Commander-in-Chief for having classified "Distinguished" at various courses. Six officers and eight other ranks had been mentioned in Despatches. Taking everything into consideration the Regiment had plenty to be proud of. The following casualties had occurred:—Officers: 2 killed, 1 died of wounds, 6 died of disease, 5 wounded. Other Ranks: 88 killed, 80 died of wounds, 650 died of disease, 509 wounded, 68 gassed.

In sports the Regiment had always more than held its own. One of the Battalions last year played 31 cricket matches, with the following results: 28 wins, 1 draw, 2 matches lost. Only one team managed to score over 100 runs against them, and three of their men were chosen to play in representative matches, and without boasting it is quite safe to say won the matches for the side they were playing for. Private Jordan, of Barbados, in the same Battalion, won 3 silver cups for swimming, two firsts and one second. The two firsts were won at the Naval and Military Swimming Sports at 66 and 133 yards for the Championships of those distances, and the 2nd prize for the 2,000 yards District Championship, open to all comers.

He would like to tell the Committee how very much the men appreciated the presents and gifts which had been forwarded at various times, but he shared the view of the Committee that the practice of making gifts to individual contingents and persons had not a good effect, making a great deal of extra work in tracing the men, while in some cases the gifts were not received till some months after it was intended they should be received. He knew of a man whose gift followed him to three battalions, and one detachment, and did not reach him till seven months after it was received at the Expeditionary Force, and he thought that the Contingent Committee would do well if it informed the various Colonies and Islands that it would be for the betterment of the men if all gifts were pooled, as it was understood that all the boys were doing their bit; facing the same work, hardships, trials and privations with the same good feeling which characterised the cheerful spirit of the British West Indies Soldier.

The proceedings were then brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was moved by Sir Owen Philipps, M.P., seconded by Sir William Grey-Wilson, and carried unanimously.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended June 30th, 1918.

The Committee begs to submit to the subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund its report and the audited statement of receipts and payments for the six months ended June 30th, 1918.

At the outset it desires to record with deep regret the deaths of two of its members, namely, Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., and His Excellency the Honourable W. Hart-Bennett, C.M.G., Governor of British Honduras. Whilst in this country in 1916 Mr. Hart-Bennett ungrudgingly devoted much time to the routine work of the Committee. It has also to deplore the death of Lady Hayes-Sadler, a member of the Ladies' Committee from its inception. As President of the Eastern League, which she founded, Lady Hayes-Sadler rendered valuable assistance to the Committee by providing many warm comforts for the troops and her loss will be much felt.

Her Highness Princess Marie Louise honoured the Committee with her presence at the last half-yearly meeting which was held at the Colonial Office on June 6th, when the report and accounts for the half-year ended December 31st, 1917, were adopted. Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., late Governor of Jamaica, and Lieut.-Col. A. E. Barchard, and Major V. G. F. Gane of the British West Indies Regiment were also present.

It will be noted that the accounts are presented in a somewhat different form from that hitherto adopted, the object being to show separately the sums specially earmarked and expended in accordance with the specific instructions of the donors.

To the proceeds of the West Indian Flag Day held in aid of the Contingent Fund, to which reference was made in the last report of the Committee, can now be added those received from the Bahamas and Jamaica, where the day was observed, with the following results.

November 16th, 1917.	Bahamas	...	£160	0	0
<i>February</i> 1918.	Jamaica	...	£1,242	3	2

The total receipts from the Flag Day, which was the first ever held throughout the West Indies, were thus brought to £4,179 2s. 5d. The expenses were £686 1s. 5d., leaving a balance of £3,493 1s. 0d. The Committee desires again to record its thanks to those who so kindly organised the Flag Day in their respective Colonies, and to the West Indian Press which contributed towards its success.

During the six months under review the British West Indies Regiment was serving on almost every front. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, K.T., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., has testified to the value of its work in France, and similarly favourable reports have been received from the General Officers Commanding in Chief in Egypt, Mesopotamia and British East Africa.

It was the constant endeavour of the Committee to provide for the well-being of all ranks in the Regiment, and all requests for comforts preferred to them by the Commanding Officers were complied with.

(14) /
The Committee was successful in securing the adjustment of a grievance resulting from the Estaminets in France being placed out of bounds. It appeared that the order was based on a misapprehension and not intended for application to the British West Indies Regiment.

The Committee made certain suggestions with regard to the granting of leave to England of parties of N.C.O.'s and men from the various Battalions, and these were still under consideration at the close of the half year. Meanwhile, board and lodging and amusements were provided for individuals coming to England on furlough.

By the arrival of further recruits the strength of the Trinidad Merchants and Planters' Contingent, and the Barbados Citizens' Contingent was raised to 262 and 79 respectively. With the majority of the men of these Contingents the Committee is now in close touch.

The Committee continued to make arrangements in connection with the repatriation of men discharged from the Imperial Army on Medical grounds, and in many instances outfits were provided to supplement the Government grant of clothing. It also furnished certain men granted leave on compassionate grounds with passages to the West Indies.

6 /
Board and lodging was provided for 294 men on leave, discharged from Hospital, or awaiting enlistment at various Clubs and Hotels, notably the Union Jack Club, the King George and Queen Mary's Clubs (Peel House and Victoria Leagues) and the Y.M.C.A. The Committee was also able to arrange for a number of officers and men to enjoy visits to English homes through the kindness of the Countess of Harrowby, Mrs. Cunningham-Craig, Mrs. F. N. Martinez, Captain William Godsall and others.

Under the auspices of the Ladies' Committee, work parties were held at the residences of Lady Dawson and Mrs. St. George Gray. They were organised by Mrs. John Bromley and were well attended. As a result of these parties and of individual effort, many hundreds of pairs of socks, anti-verminous underclothing, pyjamas, mufflers, hospital bags, etc., were made and distributed.

Among the numerous gifts and comforts distributed by the Committee during the six months under review were 2,500 badges, 666 suits of woollen underwear, 10 suits of clothes, 13 pairs of boots, besides many hundreds of pairs of socks, mufflers, etc.

As showing the variety and number of articles purchased and distributed or furnished in accordance with the wishes of the donors, the following list is given.

Artificial Leg ..	1	Hot Sauce (bottles)	1,208	Swagger Canes ..	24
Books	132	Wrist Watches ..	568	Sweets (tins) ..	2,054
Chew-Sticks (cases)	17	Soap (tablets) ..	288	Thermometers ..	6
Cigarettes ..	560,000	Special Hampers ..	16	Wallets	500
Guava Jelly (tins, &c.)					

The Hot Sauce and Guava Jelly were collected at the request of the Committee by Mrs. Graham Yearwood and a Committee of Ladies in Barbados.

The Committee also received and forwarded upwards of 1,000 parcels, most of which had to be repacked and re-addressed and over 15,000 letters. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Army Post Office inquired the assistance of the Committee in forwarding some hundreds of letters, the addresses on which were to its officials indecipherable.

The West Indian Contingent Committee is now represented in all the larger West Indian Colonies by Hon. Correspondents, the names of whom are appended to this report.

In conclusion, it should be added, that in ways too numerous to be detailed further the Staff from day to day, by personal interviews and by correspondence, have worked for the welfare, comfort and enjoyment of the West Indians serving in His Majesty's Forces.

Edward and Thorne,
J. M. Hodgson
Algernon L. Spry
Hons. Sec

HON. CORRESPONDENTS.

Antigua.—Hon. D. MACDONALD.

M Bahamas.—A Committee comprising LADY ALLARDICE, LADY TUDOR, MRS. G. H. JOHNSON, *φ*B.E., Mrs. LOFTHOUSE, *φ*B.E., MRS. C. MENENDEZ and MISS LOBB, *Hon. Secretary.* M

Barbados.—A Committee comprising MRS. W. L. C. PHILLIPS, MISS BRIGGS, MRS. M. WHITE, MISS M. EVELYN, MRS. GEORGE EVELYN, MRS. C. B. AUSTIN, MRS. A. G. BANCROFT, MRS. A. HUTSON, MRS. P. CLARKE, MRS. N. SIMPSON, MRS. E. COX, MRS. A. WILLIAMS, MRS. L. ARCHER, MRS. L. FILE, MRS. E. KING, MRS. J. R. PHILLIPS, MRS. J. MAHON, MRS. G. SKEETE, MISS EVELYN, MISS M. GREAVES and MRS. YEARWOOD, *Hon. Secretary.*

British Guiana.—J. B. CASSELS, M.B.E.

British Honduras.—THE BRITISH HONDURAS CONTINGENT SOCIETY, HON. A. R. USHER, M.B.E., *Chairman.*

Jamaica.—The Contingent Comforts Committee.—MRS. BLACKDEN, *Chairman*; MRS. J. H. PARK, *Hon. Treasurer*; MRS. LEACH, MRS. MILLS, MRS. MORRIS, MRS. ORPEN, MRS. HARRISON, MRS. PICOT, MRS. VAN ANGLEBERG, MRS. BRANCH, MRS. DOUET, MRS. MUIRHEAD, MRS. EWEN, MISS NETHERSOLE and MRS. H. C. BOURNE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Trinidad and Tobago.—The Ladies' West India Committee.—LADY CHANCELOB, *President*; MRS. GORDON GORDON, *Vice-President*; MRS. BELL, MRS. BERNARD, MRS. VINCENT BROWN, MRS. RAPSEY, MRS. GEDDES GRANT, MRS. HANCOCK, MRS. HUGGINS, MISS SELLIER, MISS MAY, MISS ECKEL and MRS. JOHN WILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

Grenada.—R. HUDSON PHILLIP, ESQ.

Monserrat.—The Women's War Committee.—MRS. DYETT, *President*; MRS. MARTIN, *Treasurer*; MISS BARRY, MISS DE FREITAS, MISS FURLONGE, MISS GUNN, MRS. HAINES, MRS. HEATH, MRS. NORRIS, MRS. STUDLEY, MRS. WALL and MISS HAINES, *Hon. Secretary.*

St. Lucia.—The Flag Day Committee.—MRS. POPHAM LOBB, *President*; MRS. G. O'D. WALTON, MRS. MURPHY, MRS. DEGAZEN, MRS. C. PETER, MRS. G. WILLIAMS, MRS. G. LAFFITTE, MRS. HARRIS and MISS MCHUGH, *Hon. Secretary.*

1918

WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE

The Half-yearly Meeting.

1918

In the absence of Sir Everard im Thurn, who has unfortunately met with an accident, having been nearly run over by a tramcar, Sir Frederic Hodgson presided over the half-yearly meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee, which was held at Scotland House, Victoria Embankment, on December 18th. The members present were Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., V.D., Colonel Sir Edward Ward, Bart., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., C.B., Sir George Le Hunte, G.C.M.G., Sir James Hayes-Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Sir William Goode, K.B.E., Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G., Mr. J. Rippon, O.B.E., Mr. G. Moody-Stuart, Mr. H. F. Previté, Mr. W. Gillespie, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, C.M.G., Hon. Secretary.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that the Committee could contemplate with pride the part our West Indian troops had taken in the War now happily terminated. Where they had been at the forefront they had borne themselves with gallantry and courage, and elsewhere they had carried out the duties entrusted to them with credit and efficiency. They had, in fact, upheld the honour and prestige of the West Indies. He expressed the hope that in the march of the troops through London the West Indian Contingent would be adequately represented, as he was sure that the people would wish to give them publicly the applause which they had so well deserved. The end of the War did not end the labours of the Committee. On the contrary, it might increase them, as there would be many matters to deal with in connection with the repatriation of the members of the Contingent. There would also be many calls on the funds, which would have to be administered with great care. Much of the success which had attended the work of the Committee was due to the unflagging energy and unflinching courtesy of their Hon. Secretary, Mr. Aspinall, ably seconded as he had been by those who had given him their assistance, and he was sure that this was the general feeling of the members of the Committee. He moved the adoption of the Report and of the Accounts.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD D. WARD, seconding the motion, said that as an Hon. Treasurer he cordially endorsed the remarks which Sir Frederic had made regarding the patriotism of all ranks of the West Indian Contingent, and as an old soldier he was glad to have the opportunity of expressing his admiration of the bayonet charge in which they had taken part in Palestine. With regard to the work of the Committee, it was clear that the hardest part of it was now beginning. Hitherto they had been working with Contingents; now they would be dealing with individuals, and it was very necessary, therefore, that every effort should be made to increase the Contingent Fund. In conclusion, Sir Edward referred to the enthusiasm of the staff, which had made every individual case requiring investigation and adjustment their own.

State of the Funds.

MR. H. F. PREVITE then referred to the main features of the Accounts, which had been audited by Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co. The balance to the credit of the General Fund on June 30th last was £2,468 9s. 1d. only, and that of Colonial separate funds £520 3s. 10d., whilst £604 was held in trust for members of various contingents and others. As the Committee was on the verge of completing a further six months since the date of the Report under consideration, he thought that it might be desirable to give a few figures to show the present position. In response to the recent appeal for further funds, £1,261 had been received from residents in this country, and he hoped that the incoming mails would bring further contributions from the Colonies. To the credit of the General Fund they held £1,786, including the £1,261 just mentioned, from which it would be gathered that the appeal had been made at an opportune moment. They also had £337 on account of Colonial separate funds, and £436 in trust for individuals, which showed their confidence in the Committee by making them their bankers. On account of loans to individual men, they were owed £112, a great part of which they hoped to recover. The War Office also owed them £150 on account of repatriation expenses advanced, which might be considered good, and £274 was due from the Trinidad Merchants' Contingent Committee, which money was also safe. Mr. G. F. Huggins, to whose energy and generosity the great success of the Trinidad Merchants' Contingent was largely due, was expected shortly to arrive in England, and he thought that he would be agreeably surprised to find that he would not be called upon to pay for the actual repatriation expenses for the members of his contingents, which would be met by the Government. The total of these various Funds amounted to £2,660, which the Committee would be able to devote to the objects of the Contingent Committee in various ways. In view of the changed circumstances produced by the Armistice, the details of the ex-

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT
COMMITTEE.

(Registered under 6 & 7 Geo. V., Ch. 43.)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the

Six Months ended 30th June, 1918.

LONDON:
THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Patron.

HER HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE.

COMMITTEE.

Chairman.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Deputy-Chairman.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, K.C.M.G., V.D.

Hon. Treasurers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G., C.B.

ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

H. F. PREVITÉ, ESQ.

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD, K.C.V.O.

LORD GLENCORNER.

SIR GEORGE R. LE HUNTE, G.C.M.G.

SIR OWEN PHILIPPS, G.C.M.G., M.P.

SIR CHARLES LUCAS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

SIR FRANCIS FLEMING, K.O.M.G.

SIR WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

SIR ROBERT LLEWELYN, K.C.M.G.

SIR JAMES HAYES-SADLER, K.C.M.G., C.B.

SIR WILLIAM GOODE, K.B.E.

C. B. HAMILTON, Esq., C.M.G.

J. RIPPON, Esq., O.B.E.

ALEX. ELDER, Esq.

EDWARD R. DAVSON, Esq.

WILLIAM GILLESPIE, Esq.

G. MOODY STUART, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Esq., C.M.G.

Barrister-at-Law.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

President.

THE COUNTESS OF STAMFORD

Chairman.

LADY DAVSON.

VISCOUNTESS FRENCH.

THE HON. MRS. HENRY EDWARDES.

LADY LE HUNTE.

LADY IM THURN.

LADY CAMERON.

LADY FLEMING.

LADY GREY-WILSON.

LADY HODGSON.

LADY LLEWELYN.

LADY OLIVIER.

LADY PHILIPPS.

LADY SENDALL.

MRS. ASPINALL.

MRS. BONYUN.

MRS. BROMLEY.

MRS. CUNNINGHAM CRAIG

MRS. GORDON GORDON.

MRS. HART.

MRS. HARLEY MOSELEY.

MRS. POE.

MRS. JAMES RICHMOND.

MRS. RIPPON.

MRS. RUTHERFORD.

MRS. MOODY STUART.

MRS. WADE.

Hon. Secretary.—MISS MARY MOSELEY, M.B.E.

Bankers.

THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK.

Offices.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS, 15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended June 30th, 1918.

The Committee begs to submit to the subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund its report and the audited statement of receipts and payments for the six months ended June 30th, 1918.

At the outset it desires to record with deep regret the deaths of two of its members, namely, Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., and His Excellency the Honourable W. Hart-Bennett, C.M.G., Governor of British Honduras. Whilst in this country in 1916 Mr. Hart-Bennett ungrudgingly devoted much time to the routine work of the Committee. It has also to deplore the death of Lady Hayes-Sadler, a member of the Ladies' Committee from its inception. As President of the Eastern League, which she founded, Lady Hayes-Sadler rendered valuable assistance to the Committee by providing many warm comforts for the troops and her loss will be much felt.

Her Highness Princess Marie Louise honoured the Committee with her presence at the last half-yearly meeting which was held at the Colonial Office on June 6th, when the report and accounts for the half-year ended December 31st, 1917, were adopted. Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., late Governor of Jamaica, and Lieut.-Col. A. E. Barchard, and Major V. G. F. Gane of the British West Indies Regiment were also present.

It will be noted that the accounts are presented in a somewhat different form from that hitherto adopted, the object being to show separately the sums specially earmarked and expended in accordance with the specific instructions of the donors.

To the proceeds of the West Indian Flag Day held in aid of the Contingent Fund, to which reference was made in the last report of the Committee, can now be added those received from the Bahamas and Jamaica, where the day was observed, with the following results.

November 16th, 1917.	Bahamas	...	£160	0	0
February	1918. Jamaica	...	£1,242	3	2

The total receipts from the Flag Day, which was the first ever held throughout the West Indies, were thus brought to £4,179 2s. 5d. The expenses were £686 1s. 5d., leaving a balance of £3,493 1s. 0d. The Committee desires again to record its thanks to those who so kindly organised the Flag Day in their respective Colonies, and to the West Indian Press which contributed towards its success.

During the six months under review the British West Indies Regiment was serving on almost every front. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, K.T., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., has testified to the value of its work in France, and similarly favourable reports have been received from the General Officers Commanding in Chief in Egypt, Mesopotamia and British East Africa.

It was the constant endeavour of the Committee to provide for the well-being of all ranks in the Regiment, and all requests for comforts preferred to them by the Commanding Officers were complied with.

The Committee was successful in securing the adjustment of a grievance resulting from the Estaminets in France being placed out of bounds. It appeared that the order was based on a misapprehension and was not intended for application to the British West Indies Regiment.

The Committee made certain suggestions with regard to the granting of leave to England of parties of N.C.O.'s and men from the various Battalions, and these were still under consideration at the close of the half year. Meanwhile, board and lodging and amusements were provided for individuals coming to England on furlough.

By the arrival of further recruits the strength of the Trinidad Merchants and Planters' Contingent, and the Barbados Citizens' Contingent was raised to 262 and 79 respectively. With the majority of the men of these Contingents the Committee is now in close touch.

The Committee continued to make arrangements in connection with the repatriation of men discharged from the Imperial Army on Medical grounds, and in many instances outfits were provided to supplement the Government grant of clothing. It also furnished certain men granted leave on compassionate grounds with passages to the West Indies.

Board and lodging was provided for 294 men on leave, discharged from Hospital, or awaiting enlistment at various Clubs and Hotels, notably the Union Jack Club, the King George and Queen Mary's Clubs (Peel House and Victoria League's) and the Y.M.C.A. The Committee was also able to arrange for a number of officers and men to enjoy visits to English homes through the kindness of the Countess of Harrowby, Mrs. Cunningham-Craig, Mrs. F. N. Martinez, Captain William Godsall and others.

Under the auspices of the Ladies' Committee, work parties were held at the residences of Lady Davson and Mrs. St. George Gray. They were organised by Mrs. John Bromley and were well attended. As a result of these parties and of individual effort, many hundreds of pairs of socks, anti-verminous underclothing, pyjamas, mufflers, hospital bags, etc., were made and distributed.

Among the numerous gifts and comforts distributed by the Committee during the six months under review were 2,500 badges, 666 suits of woollen underwear, 10 suits of clothes, 13 pairs of boots, besides many hundreds of pairs of socks, mufflers, etc.

As showing the variety and number of articles purchased and distributed or forwarded in accordance with the wishes of the donors, the following list is given.

Artificial Leg ..	1	Hot Sauce (bottles) ..	1,208	Swagger Canes ..	24
Books	132	Wrist Watches	568	Sweets (tins)	2,054
Chew-Sticks (cases) ..	17	Soap (tablets)	288	Thermometers	6
Cigarettes	500,000	Special Hampers	16	Wallets	500
Guava Jelly (lbs.) ..	500				

The Hot Sauce and Guava Jelly were collected at the request of the Committee by Mrs. Graham Yearwood and a Committee of Ladies in Barbados.

The Committee also received and forwarded upwards of 1,000 parcels, most of which had to be repacked and re-addressed and over 15,000 letters. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Army Post Office invoked the assistance of the Committee in forwarding some hundreds of letters, the addresses on which were to its officials indecipherable.

The West Indian Contingent Committee is now represented in all the larger West Indian Colonies by Hon. Correspondents, the names of whom are appended to this report.

In conclusion, it should be added, that, in ways too numerous to be detailed further, the Staff from day to day, by personal interviews and by correspondence, has worked for the welfare, comfort and enjoyment of the West Indians serving in His Majesty's Forces.

EVERARD IM THURN, *Chairman.*

FREDERIC HODGSON, *Deputy-Chairman.*

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon. Secretary.*

December, 1918.

HON. CORRESPONDENTS.

Antigua.—HON. D. MACDONALD.

Bahamas.—A Committee comprising LADY ALLARDICE, LADY TUDOR, MRS. G. H. JOHNSON, M.B.E., MRS. LOFTHOUSE, M.B.E., MRS. C. MENENDEZ and MISS LOBB, *Hon. Secretary.*

Barbados.—A Committee comprising MRS. W. L. C. PHILLIPS, MISS BRIGGS, MRS. M. WHITE, MISS M. EVELYN, MRS. GEORGE EVELYN, MRS. C. B. AUSTIN, MRS. A. G. BANCROFT, MRS. A. HUTSON, MRS. P. CLARKE, MRS. N. SIMPSON, MRS. E. COX, MRS. A. WILLIAMS, MRS. L. ARCHER, MRS. L. FILE, MRS. E. KING, MRS. J. R. PHILLIPS, MRS. J. MAHON, MRS. G. SKEETE, MISS EVELYN, MISS M. GREAVES and MRS. YEARWOOD, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE BARBADOS CITIZENS' CONTINGENT COMMITTEE. DUDLEY G. LEACOCK, Esq., *Chairman.*

British Guiana.—J. B. CASSELS, M.B.E.

British Honduras.—THE BRITISH HONDURAS CONTINGENT SOCIETY, HON. A. R. USHER, M.B.E., *Chairman.*

Jamaica.—The Contingent Comforts Committee.—MRS. BLACKDEN, *Chairman*; MRS. J. H. PARK, *Hon. Treasurer*; MRS. LEACH, MRS. MILLS, MRS. MORRIS, MRS. ORPEN, MRS. HARRISON, MRS. PICOT, MRS. VAN ANGLEBERG, MRS. BRANCH, MRS. DOUET, MRS. MUIRHEAD, MRS. EWEN, MISS NETHERSOLE and MRS. H. C. BOURNE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Trinidad and Tobago.—The Ladies' West India Committee.—LADY CHANCELLOR, *President*; MRS. GORDON GORDON, *Vice-President*; MRS. BELL, MRS. BERNARD, MRS. VINCENT BROWN, MRS. RAPSEY, MRS. GEDDES GRANT, MRS. HANCOCK, MRS. HUGGINS, MISS SELLIER, MISS MAY, MISS ECKEL and MRS. JOHN WILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE TRINIDAD MERCHANTS' AND PLANTERS' CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.
G. F. HUGGINS, Esq., O.B.E., *Hon. Secretary.*

Grenada.—R. HUDSON PHILLIP, Esq.

Monserrat.—The Women's War Committee.—MRS. DYETT, *President*; MRS. MARTIN, *Treasurer*; MISS BARRY, MISS DE FREITAS, MISS FURLONGE, MISS GUNN, MRS. HAINES, MRS. HEATH, MRS. NORRIS, MRS. STUDLEY, MRS. WALL and MISS HAINES, *Hon. Secretary.*

St. Lucia.—The Flag Day Committee.—MRS. POPHAM LOBB, *President*; MRS. G. O'D. WALTON, MRS. MURPHY, MRS. DEGAZEN, MRS. C. PETER, MRS. G. WILLIAMS, MRS. G. LAFFITTE, MRS. HARRIS and MISS McHUGH, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

	RECEIPTS.			
	Special Purposes.	Colonial Separate Funds.	General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance at 31st December, 1917	674 16 5	540 11 1	2,111 6 11	3,326 14 5
Further Donations received	199 19 8	954 14 0	261 14 8	1,416 8 4
Flag Day Receipts	—	—	1,427 6 7	1,427 6 7
Interest on Deposit	—	—	86 17 8	86 17 8
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	25 0 0	25 0 0

E. W. D. WARD,
SYDNEY OLIVIER,
R. RUTHERFORD, } *Hon. Treasurers.*
H. F. PREVITE,

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon. Secretary.*

£874 16 1 £1,495 5 1 £3,912 5 10 £6,282 7 0

BALANCE SHEET,

	£ s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	604 0 0
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	100 10 9
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in hand	174 4 4
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	520 3 10
„ General Fund	2,468 9 1

£3,867 8 0

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
15th November, 1918.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

for the Six Months ending 30th June, 1918.

	PAYMENTS.			
	Special Purposes.	Colonial Separate Funds.	General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	298 17 3	82 8 4	381 5 7
Clothing and Comforts	—	191 17 11	113 18 2	305 16 1
Gifts to Men in Hospital and Prisoners of War	—	56 0 0	214 19 8	270 19 8
Do. of Tobacco and Cigarettes	—	267 0 1	11 17 1	278 17 2
Do. to Men on Sick Furlough	—	62 13 6	81 3 4	143 16 10
Christmas Gifts of Cigarette Cases and Wallets (balance)	—	—	16 0 7	16 0 7
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	—	—	113 15 3	113 15 3
Do. Cap and Collar Badges do. do.	—	—	93 7 10	93 7 10
Do. Typewriters, &c., do. do.	—	—	24 1 0	24 1 0
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	36 13 5	4 9	36 18 2
Entertaining Men	—	6 15 2	14 11 5	21 6 7
Cost of Repatriation of Men invalided from the Army	—	36 6 0	143 12 9	179 18 9
Medical and Dental Attention, etc.	—	2 19 9	8 17 5	11 17 2
Cables	—	15 18 2	—	15 18 2
Sporting Outfits	—	—	76 8 8	76 8 8
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	700 11 9	—	—	700 11 9
	700 11 9	975 1 3	995 6 3	2,670 19 3
Wages and Clerical Assistance	—	—	248 7 8	248 7 8
Postages	—	—	85 2 0	85 2 0
Cablegrams	—	—	14 17 0	14 17 0
Printing and Stationery	—	—	36 3 6	36 3 6
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	22 0 11	22 0 11
Travelling Expenses	—	—	2 16 0	2 16 0
General Expenses	—	—	21 7 3	21 7 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	17 16 2	17 16 2
			448 10 6	448 10 6
Balance	£700 11 9	£975 1 3	£1,443 16 9	£3,119 9 9
	174 4 4	520 3 10	2,468 9 1	3,162 17 3
	£874 16 1	£1,495 5 1	£3,912 5 10	£6,282 7 0

30th June, 1918.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	—	289 2 2
„ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	—	130 16 2
„ „ Cash at Union of London and Smith's Bank on Deposit	3,100 0 0	—
„ „ on Current Account	346 14 9	—
„ „ in hand	14 11	—
	3,447 9 8	—
	£3,867 8 0	—

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO., } *Auditors.*
Chartered Accountants,



BADGE OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES REGIMENT
PRESENTED TO ALL RANKS BY
THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Fund.		General Fund.		Total.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Balance at 31st December, 1917	674	16 5	540	11 1	2,111	6 11	3,326 14 5
Further Donations received	199	19 8	954	14 0	261	14 8	1,416 8 4
Flag Day Receipts	—	—	—	—	1,427	6 7	1,427 6 7
Interest on Deposit	—	—	—	—	86	17 8	86 17 8
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	—	—	25	0 0	25 0 0

Edward Sydney Olivier
R. Ruthvenford
H. F. French
Algernon L. Aspinall

Hon. Treasurers
 Hon. Secs.

£874 16 1 £1,495 5 1 £3,912 5 10 £6,282 7 0

BALANCE SHEET,

	£	s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	604	0 0
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	100	10 9
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in hand	174	4 4
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	520	3 10
„ General Fund	2,468	9 1
	£3,867	8 0

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
 OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
 15th Nov 1918.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

for the Six Months ending 30th June, 1918.

PAYMENTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Fund.		General Fund.		Total.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clothing and Comforts	—	—	258	17 3	82	8 4	381 5 7
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	—	191	17 11	113	18 2	305 16 1
Do. to Prisoners of War	—	—	56	0 0	214	1 8	270 1 8
Do. of Tobacco and Cigarettes	—	—	—	—	0	18 0	0 18 0
Do. to Men on Sick Furlough	—	—	267	0 1	11	17 1	278 17 2
Christmas Gifts of Cigarettes, Cases and Wallets	—	—	62	13 6	81	3 4	143 16 10
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	—	—	—	—	16	0 7	16 0 7
Do. Cap and Collar Badges do. do.	—	—	—	—	113	15 3	113 15 3
Do. Typewriters, &c., do. do.	—	—	—	—	93	7 10	93 7 10
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	—	—	—	24	1 0	24 1 0
Entertaining Men	—	—	36	13 5	0	4 9	36 18 2
Cost of Repatriation of Men Invalided from the Army	—	—	6	15 2	14	11 5	21 6 7
Medical and Dental Attention, etc.	—	—	36	6 0	143	12 9	179 18 9
Cables	—	—	2	19 9	8	17 5	11 17 2
Sporting Outfits	—	—	15	18 2	—	—	15 18 2
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	700	11 9	—	—	76	8 8	76 8 8
	700	11 9	975	1 3	995	6 3	2,670 19 3
Clerical Assistance	—	—	—	—	248	7 8	248 7 8
Postages	—	—	—	—	85	2 0	85 2 0
Cablegrams	—	—	—	—	14	17 0	14 17 0
Printing and Stationery	—	—	—	—	36	3 6	36 3 6
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	22	0 11	22 0 11
Travelling Expenses	—	—	—	—	2	16 0	2 16 0
General Expenses	—	—	—	—	21	7 3	21 7 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	—	—	17	16 2	17 16 2
	—	—	—	—	443	10 6	443 10 6
Balance	£700	11 9	£975	1 3	£1,443	16 9	£3,119 9 9
	174	4 4	520	3 10	2,468	9 1	3,162 17 3
	£874	16 1	£1,495	5 1	£3,912	5 10	£6,282 7 0

30th June, 1918.

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	—	—	289	2 2
„ „ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	—	—	130	16 2
„ „ „ Cash at Union of London and Smith's Bank on Deposit	—	—	3,100	0 0
„ „ „ „ on Current Account	—	—	346	14 9
„ „ „ „ in hand	—	—	0	14 11
	—	—	3,447	9 8
	£3,867	8 0	£3,867	8 0

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

Walter Waterhouse
 Chartered Accountants, } Auditors.

penditure would change, but the daily calls on the Fund, far from growing less, would undoubtedly grow larger; indeed, they were doing so already. The money had been subscribed so that it might be spent for the benefit of West Indians serving in His Majesty's Forces, and he thought that the subscribers might be confident that it would be wisely spent to the end. The Chairman then put the Resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The B.W.I.'s Bayonet Charge.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER then moved the following Resolution:—

That the West Indian Contingent Committee desires to express its pride and satisfaction in the distinguished part which the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the British West Indies Regiment have played in the successful operations against the Turks in Palestine, and particularly in the bayonet charge in which they participated on September 22, and to convey to the officers commanding its congratulations on the conduct of all ranks on that occasion.

He said that all the men from the West Indies, when they voluntarily enlisted, did not desire to be placed on a comparatively safe work. They believed that they were going to fight for their King and Country, and were all anxious to do so. They were consequently not a little disappointed at first when they found that they were to be employed on labour work; but they had performed their task conscientiously under shell fire in the very forefront of the firing line, and he felt that they had earned the sympathy of the public to the fullest extent. Many had been wounded and killed without the opportunity of actually fighting, and many had succumbed to the rigours of the climate and conditions on the Western Front. The Battalions in Palestine, however, had at last had an opportunity of showing their prowess, and they had fully justified the conviction that West Indians made very able fighting men, and had given a good account of themselves.

In conclusion, Sir Sydney referred to the great dissatisfaction which was felt at the differentiation between other Imperial troops and the British West Indies Regiment in the matter of pay—a differentiation for which no particular reason had been adduced.

The Resolution was seconded by Sir George Le Hunte, who fully endorsed all that Sir Sydney had said, and was carried unanimously. A discussion then took place regarding the question of pay, and it was decided to address a communication to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.

Edward in Thun

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT
COMMITTEE.

(Registered under 6 & 7 Geo. V., Ch. 43.)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the

Six Months ended 31st December, 1918.

LONDON:
THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Patron.

HER HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE, G.B.E.

COMMITTEE.

Chairman.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Deputy-Chairman.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, K.C.M.G., V.D.

Hon. Treasurers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., G.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G., C.B.

ROBERT RUTHERFORD, Esq.

H. F. PREVITÉ, Esq.

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD, K.C.V.O.

LORD GLENCONNER.

SIR GEORGE R. LE HUNTE, G.C.M.G.

SIR OWEN PHILIPPS, G.C.M.G., M.P.

SIR CHARLES LUCAS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

SIR FRANCIS FLEMING, K.C.M.G.

SIR WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

SIR JAMES HAYES-SADLER, K.C.M.G., C.B.

SIR WILLIAM GOODE, K.B.E.

SIR EDWARD DAVSON.

C. B. HAMILTON, Esq., C.M.G.

J. RIPPON, Esq., O.B.E.

ALEX. ELDER, Esq.

WILLIAM GILLESPIE, Esq.

G. MOODY STUART, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Esq., C.M.G.

Barrister-at-Law.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

President.

THE COUNTESS OF STAMFORD.

Chairman.

LADY DAYSON.

VISCOUNTESS FRENCH.

THE HON. MRS. HENRY EDWARDES.

LADY LE HUNTE.

LADY IM THURN.

LADY CAMERON.

LADY FLEMING.

LADY GREY-WILSON.

LADY HODGSON.

LADY LLEWELYN.

LADY OLIVIER.

LADY PHILIPPS.

LADY SENDALL.

MRS. ASPINALL.

MRS. BONYUN.

MRS. BROMLEY.

MRS. CUNNINGHAM CRAIG.

MRS. GORDON GORDON.

MRS. HART.

MRS. HARLEY MOSELEY.

MRS. POE.

MRS. JAMES RICHMOND.

MRS. RIPPON.

MRS. RUTHERFORD.

MRS. MOODY STUART.

MRS. WADE.

Hon. Secretary.—MISS MARY MOSELEY, M.B.E.

Bankers.

THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK.

Offices.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS, 15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

(Registered under 6 & 7 Geo. V. Ch. 43.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Six Months ended December 31st, 1918.

The Committee, in submitting to the subscribers to the West Indian Contingent Fund its half-yearly report, the audited accounts for the six months ended December 31st, 1918 and the Balance Sheet, desires at the outset to record with deep regret the death of one of its members Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., which occurred on February 26th last.

The report and accounts for the preceding half-year were adopted at a meeting held at Scotland House, on December 18th, Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., V.D. presiding in the absence of the Chairman who had met with a slight accident.

The half-year was marked by the cessation of hostilities, and, after the signing of the Armistice on November 11th, the work of the Committee entered upon a new phase. The question of demobilisation and repatriation came to the forefront, and, by correspondence and personal interview, the staff was kept more than usually busy answering the many enquiries which they received regarding these problems.

It being realised that the activities of the Committee would necessarily have to be continued for many months to come, and that the expenses would be extremely heavy during the period of demobilisation, a further appeal for funds was issued. This brought in to the close of the year the sum of £1,433 0s. 4d. It is noteworthy that, whilst organisations established in London for providing for the welfare of the troops from the Dominions and Bermuda have received financial support from the Governments concerned, the West Indian Contingent Committee has been maintained solely by the voluntary subscriptions of individuals and firms. The Committee desires to express its thanks to the subscribers for their generous support.

During the half-year under review the Battalions of the British West Indies Regiment which were serving the guns on the Western Front—a hazardous task for which they had volunteered in Egypt—were constantly under fire, sustaining many casualties and earning the appreciation and thanks of the Commander-in-Chief. In Palestine, the 1st and 2nd Battalions greatly distinguished themselves in the operations in the Jordan Valley and in the advance to Amman which led to the surrender of the Turkish Army, participating in a brilliant bayonet charge which won for them the admiration of the European and Dominion troops and the commendation of the General Officer commanding.

Immediately prior to the cessation of hostilities the various Battalions of the Regiment were stationed in the undermentioned countries:—

1st Battalion, Lt. Col. C. Wood Hill, D.S.O.	Egypt	8th Battalion, Major Maxwell J. Smith	Italy
2nd " Lt. Col. J. Poë	"	9th " Lt. Col. R. E. Negus	France
3rd " Col. A. E. Barchard	France	10th " Lt. Col. C. W. Long	Italy
4th " Lt. Col. G. V. Hart	"	11th " Lt. Col. C. M. Ogilvie	"
5th " Lt. Col. A. W. M. Wilson	Egypt	Honduras Contingents, Capt. Jeffery, Mesopotamia	
6th " Lt. Col. E. C. Ogle	France		
7th " Lt. Col. C. D. Arnold	"		

The exclusion of non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment from the arrangements for the increase of pay granted to other units of the Imperial Army under Army Order 1 of 1918, gave rise to considerable dissatisfaction, and the fear that the grant of gratuities also might not be extended to the Regiment led the Committee to address a letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies urging that representations might be made to the Army Council on the subject. This letter was signed by seven late Governors, and by others intimately acquainted with the West Indian affairs. As the result the Army Council after the close of the year decided that warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment should be granted the full privileges under the Order with effect as from September 29th, 1917 and also War Gratuity at the rates and under the conditions laid down in Army Order 17 of 1919. The Committee ventures to think that if it had only succeeded in securing this concession it would have fully justified its existence.

Representations having been made that the personnel of the Regimental Record Office of the British West Indies Regiment in London found it difficult to subsist on the pay granted to it, the Committee for some months gave the men an extra weekly allowance.

It appearing that the privilege of wearing the B.V.L.A. (British Volunteer from Latin America) Badge, issued by the War Office to those who came from Central and South America to enlist, was not being extended to men from Panama in the British West Indies Regiment, on the ground that they had enlisted in Jamaica and not in the United Kingdom, the Committee made representations on the subject to the Army Council who consented to officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers from non-British Central and South America in the British West Indies Regiment receiving this distinctive badge.

The proposal that parties of non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment might visit England, to which reference was made in last report, was adopted. In November and December two such parties arrived in London and were lodged in the gardens of Buckingham Palace, where they were the guests of the King. During their stay in this country the men were entertained by the Committee, which provided them with tickets for theatres, etc., and arranged for visits to Windsor Castle where they were graciously received by H.R.H. Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone. The leave parties provided a Guard of Honour to H.H. Princess Marie Louise on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Ladies' Committee on December 4th, and, at the request of the Committee, they were allowed to participate in the Lord Mayor's Show on November 9th, when their soldierly bearing was, as in 1915, the subject of much appreciative comment. The Committee also provided board and lodging for all non-commissioned officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment visiting London from time to time who applied for it. Thanks are due to Captain D. Hiam of the Church Army who acted as guide to the leave parties.

Following the precedent of the last two years the Committee at Christmas presented a small souvenir in the form of a pocket wallet bearing the regimental badge to every officer, non-commissioned officer and man of the British West Indies Regiment. It also sent a pocket diary with a suitable inscription to every officer, N.C.O. and man who came independently from the West Indies to enlist whose address was known.

The Committee continued to repatriate men discharged from the army on account of sickness or wounds, drawing from the War Office the amount which that department would otherwise have paid for the passages. This arrangement which worked admirably in every respect and effected much saving of time and expense was, however, terminated by the Army Council when demobilisation began. At the close of the year it became

apparent that as far as officers and men from the West Indies were concerned the repatriation arrangements were far from satisfactory, and at the date of this report comparatively few of the men who came over independently have been repatriated though many have been waiting several months for passages.

The record of the Trinidad Merchants' and Planters' Contingent and the Barbados Citizens' Contingent, which are under the care of the Committee, at the date of this report was as follows:—

	TRINIDAD.	BARBADOS.		TRINIDAD.	BARBADOS.
Officers	71	24	Killed in action ..	8	10
Cadets	14	—	Lost at Sea	—	1
N.C.O's.	11	5	Died of Wounds ..	2	1
Privates	164	59	Died of Sickness ..	5	2
Too late for enlistment or rejected	12	1	Wounded and Gassed ..	39	22
	<u>272</u>	<u>80</u>	Prisoners of War ..	4	3
			Honours	11	5

At the request of the Army Council the Committee provided several men, granted furlough, with passages to the West Indies. It has with regret to record that two of these men, Sergeant A. H. Robinson and Corporal D. M. Speid lost their lives when the S.S. "Portuguero" was torpedoed on her voyage to Jamaica on June 26th.

Consignments of West India commodities, chiefly guaya jelly and hot sauce, were received from Mrs. Graham Yearwood (Barbados), Mrs. Clarence Bourne (Jamaica), The Ladies' West India Committee (Trinidad), and Mrs. Brodie (Grenada), and were forwarded to various Hospitals and Battalions of the British West Indies Regiment by which they were much appreciated.

To show the great variety and number of articles purchased and distributed or forwarded in accordance with the wishes of the donors, the following list is given:—

Artificial Eyes	Cigarette Lighters	Fountain Pens	Lantern Slides
.. Legs	Cigarettes	Games	Musical Instruments
Badges	Clothing	Gloves	Razors
Boxing Gloves	Diaries	Handkerchiefs	Soap
Books	Electric Torches	Hats	Wallets
Boots and Shoes	Eye Glasses	Hold-alls	Writing Pads

The Ladies' work parties were continued with success at the residence of Lady Davson and many useful comforts were made at them and also by individual effort.

During the half-year a branch was established at Liverpool, with Mrs. Evelyn Parker as Chairman and Mr. W. Speed as Hon. Secretary, which is doing valuable work in visiting and providing for the comfort of West Indians in hospital in that city, and the circle of Hon. Correspondents was extended by the appointment of Mrs. Hazell to represent the Committee in St. Vincent.

In conclusion the Committee again desires to thank the West India Committee for placing the offices at 15, Seething Lane at its disposal. It also records its appreciation of the services of the members of the staff, and especially Miss Mary Moseley, M.B.E., whose personal attention to officers and men when in hospital has been beyond praise, and Mr. G. P. Osmond who has rendered valuable help not only in keeping the accounts, but also in connection with the despatch of gifts and with repatriation.

April 25th, 1919.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15 SEETHING LANE, E. C. 3.

EVERARD IM THURN, *Chairman.*
FREDERIC HODGSON, *Deputy-Chairman.*
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

	RECEIPTS.			
	Special Purposes.	Colonial Separate Funds.	General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance at 30th June, 1918	174 4 4	520 3 10	2,468 9 1	3,162 17 3
Further Donations received	904 14 8	549 11 8	1,488 6 6	2,942 12 10
Further Flag Day Receipts	—	—	6 13 0	6 13 0
Interest on Deposit	—	—	41 0 9	41 0 9
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	150 11 8	150 11 8

E. W. D. WARD,
SYDNEY OLIVIER,
R. RUTHERFORD,
H. F. PREVITE, } *Hon. Treasurers.*

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Hon. Secretary.*

£1,078 19 0 £1,069 15 6 £4,155 1 0 £6,303 15 6

BALANCE SHEET,

	£ s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	278 10 3
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	51 12 4
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in hand	172 6 5
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	106 8 10
„ Overdraft at National Provincial and Union Bank of England	93 13 11
General Fund	2,041 15 1
	£2,744 6 10

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
8th April, 1919.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

for the Six Months ending 31st December, 1918.

	PAYMENTS.			
	Special Purposes.	Colonial Separate Funds.	General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	143 11 11	152 8 11	296 0 10
Clothing and Comforts	—	181 9 9	87 4 0	268 13 9
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	71 17 5	41 14 1	113 11 6
Gifts to Prisoners of War	—	—	17 11 4	17 11 4
Gifts of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines	—	15 10 11	104 19 11	120 10 10
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough and Leave	—	211 18 10	166 4 8	378 3 6
Christmas Gifts of Wallets	—	116 10 0	653 6 9	769 16 9
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	—	—	2 17 6	2 17 6
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	21 0 7	1 8 4	22 8 11
Entertaining Men	—	—	69 17 6	69 17 6
Cost of Repatriation of Men	—	32 13 4	294 6 8	327 0 0
Medical and Dental Attention, Artificial Limbs, Spectacles, etc.	—	61 6 8	1 1 0	62 7 8
Funeral Expenses	—	19 4 6	—	19 4 6
Cables	—	42 7 9	1 17 6	44 5 3
Sporting Outfits and Games	—	45 15 0	9 12 5	55 7 5
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	906 12 7	—	—	906 12 7
	906 12 7	963 6 8	1,604 10 7	3,474 9 10
Wages and Clerical Assistance	—	—	250 8 0	250 8 0
Postages	—	—	98 3 0	98 3 0
Cablegrams	—	—	15 0 2	15 0 2
Printing and Stationery	—	—	40 4 9	40 4 9
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	52 14 2	52 14 2
Travelling Expenses	—	—	4 7 11	4 7 11
General Expenses	—	—	89 19 3	89 19 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	7 18 1	7 18 1
	—	—	508 15 4	508 15 4
Balance	£906 12 7	£963 6 8	£2,113 5 11	£3,983 5 2
	172 6 5	106 8 10	2,041 15 1	2,320 10 4
	£1,078 19 0	£1,069 15 6	£4,155 1 0	£6,303 15 6

31st December, 1918.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	—	267 14 0
„ „ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	—	354 1 7
„ „ „ Cash at National Provincial and Union Bank of England on Deposit	2,100 0 0	—
„ „ „ in hand	17 11 3	—
„ „ „ Ladies' Committee	5 0 0	—
	2,122 11 3	—
	£2,744 6 10	—

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants, } *Auditors.*



BADGE OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES REGIMENT
PRESENTED TO ALL RANKS BY
THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

for the Six Months ending 31st December, 1918.

RECEIPTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance at 30th June, 1918	174	4 4	520	3 10	2,468	9 1	3,162	17 3
Further Donations received	904	14 8	549	11 8	1,488	6 6	2,942	12 10
Further Flag Day Receipts	—	—	—	—	6 13	0	6 13	0
Interest on Deposit	—	—	—	—	41	0 9	41	0 9
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	—	—	150	11 8	150	11 8

Hon. Treasurers.

Hon. Secretary.

£1,078 19 0 £1,069 15 6 £4,155 1 0 £6,303 15 6

BALANCE SHEET,

	£	s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	278	10 3
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	51	12 4
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in hand	172	6 5
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	106	8 10
„ Overdraft at National Provincial and Union Bank of England	93	13 11
General Fund	2,041	15 1
	£2,744	6 10

PAYMENTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	—	143	11 11	152	8 11	296	0 10
Clothing and Comforts	—	—	181	9 9	87	4 0	268	13 9
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	—	71	17 5	41	14 1	113	11 6
Gifts to Prisoners of War	—	—	—	—	17	11 4	17	11 4
Gifts of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines	—	—	15	10 11	104	19 11	120	10 10
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough and Leave	—	—	211	18 10	166	4 8	378	3 6
Christmas Gifts of Cigarette Cases and Wallets	—	—	116	10 0	653	6 9	769	16 9
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	—	—	—	—	2	17 6	2	17 6
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	—	21	0 7	1	8 4	22	8 11
Entertaining Men	—	—	—	—	69	17 6	69	17 6
Cost of Repatriation of Men	—	—	32	13 4	294	6 8	327	0 0
Medical and Dental Attention, Artificial Limbs, Spectacles, etc.	—	—	61	6 8	1	1 0	62	7 8
Funeral Expenses	—	—	19	4 6	—	—	19	4 6
Cables	—	—	42	7 9	1	17 6	44	5 3
Sporting Outfits and Games	—	—	45	15 0	9	12 5	55	7 5
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	906	12 7	—	—	—	—	906	12 7
	906	12 7	963	6 8	1,604	10 7	3,474	9 10
Wages and Clerical Assistance	—	—	—	—	250	8 0	250	8 0
Postages	—	—	—	—	98	3 0	98	3 0
Cablegrams	—	—	—	—	15	0 2	15	0 2
Printing and Stationery	—	—	—	—	40	4 9	40	4 9
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	52	14 2	52	14 2
Travelling Expenses	—	—	—	—	4	7 11	4	7 11
General Expenses	—	—	—	—	39	19 3	39	19 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	—	—	7	18 1	7	18 1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	508	15 4
	£906	12 7	£963	6 8	£2,113	5 11	£3,983	5 2
Balance	172	6 5	106	8 10	2,041	15 1	2,320	10 4
	£1,078	19 0	£1,069	15 6	£4,155	1 0	£6,303	15 6

31st December, 1918.

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	—	—	267	14 0
„ „ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	—	—	354	1 7
„ Cash at National Provincial and Union Bank of England on Deposit	2,100	0 0	—	—
„ „ in hand	—	—	17	11 3
„ „ „ Ladies' Committee	—	—	5	0 0
	2,122	11 3	—	—
	£2,744	6 10	—	—

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
8th April, 1919.

We have examined the above Account with the

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

One Waterloo Street
Chartered Accountants, } Auditors.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

for the Six Months ending 31st December, 1918.

RECEIPTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	£	s.	£	s.	£	£
Balance at 30th June, 1918	174	4 4	510	3 10	2,468 9 1	3,162 17 3
Further Donations received	904	14 8	549	11 8	1,468 6 6	2,942 12 10
Further Flag Day Receipts	—	—	—	—	6 13 0	6 13 0
Interest on Deposit	—	—	—	—	41 0 9	41 0 9
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	—	—	150 11 8	150 11 8

PAYMENTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.	Total.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	£	s.	£	s.	£	£
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	—	148	11 11	152 8 11	296 0 10
Clothing and Comforts	—	—	181	9 9	87 4 0	268 13 9
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	—	71	17 5	41 14 1	113 11 6
Gifts to Prisoners of War	—	—	—	—	17 11 4	17 11 4
Gifts of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines	—	—	15	10 11	104 19 11	120 10 10
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough and Leave	—	—	211	18 10	166 4 8	378 3 6
Christmas Gifts of Cigarette Cases and Wallets	—	—	116	10 0	653 6 9	769 16 9
Further Musical Instruments for B. W. I. Regiment	—	—	—	—	2 17 6	2 17 6
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	—	21	0 7	1 8 4	22 8 11
Entertaining Men	—	—	—	—	69 17 6	69 17 6
Cost of Repatriation of Men	—	—	32	13 4	294 6 8	327 0 0
Medical and Dental Attention, Artificial Limbs, Spectacles, etc.	—	—	61	6 3	1 1 0	62 7 8
Funeral Expenses	—	—	19	4 6	—	19 4 6
Cables	—	—	42	7 9	1 17 6	44 5 3
Sporting Outfits and Games	—	—	45	15 0	9 12 5	55 7 5
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	906	12 7	—	—	—	906 12 7
	906	12 7	968	6 8	1,604 10 7	3,474 9 10
Wages and Clerical Assistance	—	—	—	—	250 8 0	250 8 0
Postages	—	—	—	—	98 3 0	98 3 0
Cablegrams	—	—	—	—	15 0 2	15 0 2
Printing and Stationery	—	—	—	—	40 4 9	40 4 9
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	52 14 2	52 14 2
Travelling Expenses	—	—	—	—	4 7 11	4 7 11
General Expenses	—	—	—	—	39 19 3	39 19 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	—	—	7 18 1	7 18 1
	—	—	—	—	508 15 4	508 15 4
Balance	2906	12 7	2963	6 8	2,213 5 11	23,983 5 2
	172	6 5	106	8 10	2,041 15 1	2,320 10 4
	1,078	19 0	1,069	15 6	4,155 1 0	26,303 15 6

E. W. Ward
R. Rutherford
H. F. Grewitt } Hon. Treasurers.
Algernon E. Rospittell } Hon. Secretary.

£1,078 19 0 £1,069 15 6 £4,155 1 0 £6,303 15 6

BALANCE SHEET,

	£ s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	278 10 3
" Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	51 12 4
" Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in hand	172 6 5
" Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	106 8 10
" Overdraft at National Provincial and Union Bank of England	93 13 11
General Fund	2,041 15 1
	£2,744 6 10

31st December, 1918.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	267 14 0	267 14 0
" " " Trinidad Merchants' Fund	354 1 7	354 1 7
" " " Cash at National Provincial and Union Bank of England on Deposit	2,100 0 0	2,100 0 0
" " " in hand	17 11 3	17 11 3
" " " Ladies' Committee	5 0 0	5 0 0
	2,122 11 3	2,122 11 3
	£2,744 6 10	£2,744 6 10

We have examined the above Account with the

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
 OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
 8th April, 1919.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
 Chartered Accountants, } Auditors.

1919

The half-yearly meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held in the Conference Room at the Colonial Office at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21st. Sir Everard im Thurn presided, and those present included Sir George Le Hunte, Sir Sydney Oliver, Sir Frederic Hodgson, Sir Francis Fleming, Mr. C. B. Hamilton, Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mr. T. H. Allen, and Mr. Algernon Aspinall, Hon. Secretary.

The Chairman, moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that it was probable that this would be their penultimate meeting, as demobilisation was now proceeding satisfactorily, about 8,000 men of the British West Indies Regiment having already been repatriated. The demobilisation of those who came over independently had not progressed so well, but the arrangements were now working more smoothly, and within a few weeks the Repatriation Camp would be cleared of West Indians. In this connection he referred to the good work of Miss Moseley, who at the request of the Hon. Secretary had recently been acting in a liaison capacity at Winchester. He also spoke highly of the assistance afforded by Mr. Osmond, as mentioned in the report. He would not attempt to deal with all that the Committee had done, but he must mention the success which had attended their efforts to secure fair treatment for the British West Indies Regiment in the matter of pay and gratuities. For some reason or other the West Indians had been denied the increase of pay under Army Order 1 of 1918. The Committee made strong representations on the subject, which were supported by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the result that the decision was reconsidered and the men were granted the full increase of pay and gratuities. If the Regiment had not been treated fairly in this matter there would have been grave discontent in the West Indies.

Sir Frederic Hodgson, seconding the motion, said that the report showed how very necessary the establishment of the Committee had been. Not only had it been able to look after the comfort of the men, but also to take up large questions of policy and carry them through.

Mr. H. F. Previt , Hon. Treasurer, having touched briefly on the published accounts, said that, thanks to the generosity of their friends, the position of the Contingent Fund was still satisfactory. Incidentally he mentioned that the Committee had been doing quite a banking business, having received in trust for men serving or who had lately served upwards of £900.

Supporting the motion, Sir Francis Fleming referred to the pleasure which it had given him to sign the letter on the subject of pay mentioned by the Chairman. He was glad indeed that the British West Indies Regiment had been fairly treated. Continuing, he said that his nephew, General Bulfin, writing from Egypt and Palestine, had on several occasions expressed to him his great satisfaction at the manner in which the Regiment had performed its work.

The motion for the adoption of the report and accounts having been put to the meeting and carried, the proceedings terminated.

Everard im Thurn

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT
COMMITTEE.

(Registered under 6 & 7 Geo. V., Ch. 43.)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the

Nine Months ended 30th September, 1919.

*Adopted at the Final Meeting held at the Colonial Office,
Downing Street, on Thursday, January 22nd, 1920.*

LONDON:
THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Patron.

HER HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE, G.B.E.

COMMITTEE.

Chairman.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Deputy-Chairman.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, K.C.M.G., V.D.

Hon. Treasurers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., G.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.,
SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
ROBERT RUTHERFORD, Esq.
H. F. PREVITE, Esq.

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD, K.C.V.O.
LORD GLENCONNER.
SIR GEORGE R. LE HUNTE, G.C.M.G.
SIR OWEN PHILIPPS, G.C.M.G., M.P.
SIR CHARLES LUCAS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.
SIR WILLIAM GREY-WILSON, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
SIR JAMES HAYES-SADLER, K.C.M.G., C.B.
SIR FRANCIS FLEMING, K.C.M.G.

SIR WILLIAM GOODE, K.B.E.
SIR EDWARD DAVSON.
C. B. HAMILTON, Esq., C.M.G.
J. RIPPON Esq., O.B.E.
ALEX. ELDER, Esq.
WILLIAM GILLESPIE, Esq.
G. MOODY STUART, Esq.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

President.

THE COUNTESS OF STAMFORD.

Chairman.

LADY DAVSON.

THE VISCOUNTESS FRENCH.
THE HON. MRS. HENRY EDWARDES.
LADY LE HUNTE.
LADY IM THURN.
LADY CAMERON.
LADY FLEMING.
LADY GREY-WILSON.
LADY HODGSON.
LADY LLEWELYN.
LADY OLIVIER.
LADY PHILIPPS.
LADY SENDALL.
MRS. ALGERNON ASPINALL.

MRS. BONYUN.
MRS. BROMLEY.
MRS. CUNNINGHAM CRAIG.
MRS. GORDON GORDON.
MRS. HART.
MRS. HARLEY MOSELEY.
MRS. POE.
MRS. JAMES RICHMOND.
MRS. RIPPON.
MRS. RUTHERFORD.
MRS. MOODY STUART.
MRS. WADE.

Hon. Sec.—MISS MARY MOSELEY, M.B.E.

Hon. Secretary.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Esq., C.M.G.
Barrister-at-Law.

Bankers.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LTD.

Offices.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS, 15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

(Registered under 6 and 7 Geo. V. Ch. 43).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

For the Nine Months ended September 30th, 1919.

In presenting its final report together with the audited accounts for the nine months ended September 30th, 1919, and the Balance Sheet, the Committee feels that it will not be out of place to review briefly the circumstances which led to its appointment and the work which it undertook.

Immediately after the outbreak of the Great European War all classes of the communities in the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras showed a desire, as spontaneous as it was general, to be permitted to take part in the defence of King and Empire. Many who could afford to do so hastened to England at their own expense, and joined various units of His Majesty's Forces; but offers to furnish special contingents for active service were at first discouraged by the Army Council on the ground that the first duty of West Indians was to hold themselves ready to defend their own homes from the expected attacks by enemy cruisers. When, however, this menace became less serious, renewed requests by the West Indian communities to be allowed to send contingents to fight side by side with the Imperial and Dominion Troops was gladly acceded to, and recruiting throughout the West Indian Colonies began in earnest.

At a meeting of gentlemen interested in the British West Indian Colonies which was held at the Colonial Office, on August 30th, 1915, by the invitation of the Right Honourable A. Bonar Law, M.P., then Secretary of State for the Colonies, the West Indian Contingent Committee was formed to provide for the welfare and comfort of the men of the West Indian Contingents as well as of those who had come over independently, and of others who might come over, to enlist in the new armies.

An appeal for funds was issued on September 24th, and the response to this and to succeeding appeals has enabled the Committee successfully, it is believed, to carry out its purpose. In collecting subscriptions the Committee received valuable assistance from the local Committees and Honorary Correspondents whose names are appended to this Report.

For some months the Committee also provided for the welfare of the men of the Bermuda Contingents, for which it received the thanks of the Governor of the Bermudas,

but on the formation of the Bermuda Contingents Committee its activities in this connection were transferred to that body.

At a meeting held on November 29th, 1915, which Princess Marie Louise was graciously pleased to attend, a Ladies Committee was formed, of which Her Highness consented to become Patron with the Countess of Stamford as President and Lady Owen Philipps as Chairman. Lady Owen Philipps, finding it impossible to devote the necessary time to the work, was succeeded as Chairman by Lady Davson. This Committee did much valuable work, notably in providing warm clothing and other comforts.

The work which the Committee undertook eventually proved far greater and much more complex than had been anticipated. Instead of the two thousand men at first contemplated, no fewer than 15,601 men were eventually enrolled in the British West Indies Regiment, the formation of which Corps from contingents of the inhabitants of the West Indian Colonies, His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to approve on October 26th 1915.

Towards this total every West Indian Colony contributed without exception, the numbers sent over from the various islands and from British Guiana and British Honduras being as follows:—

	OFFICERS.	MEN.
Barbados	20	811
Bahamas	2	439
British Guiana ..	14	686
British Honduras ..	5	528
Jamaica	303	9,977
Trinidad and Tobago	40	1,488
Grenada	4	441
St. Lucia	5	354
St. Vincent	—	305
The Leeward Islands	4	225
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	397	15,204
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The Committee also provided for the welfare of the men of "the Trinidad Merchants' and Planters' Contingent" and "the Barbados Citizens' Contingent." These private contingents were raised by committees comprising the Mayor of Port of Spain, Hon. Adam Smith, C.M.G., Hon. R. S. Aucher Warner, K.C., Hon. Hugh McLelland, Major A. S. Bowen, Major Randolph Rust, Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. J. Howard Smith, Mr. John Phillips, Mr. J. F. Moodie, and Mr. Edgar Tripp, with Mr. G. F. Huggins, O.B.E., Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, in Trinidad; and Mr. Dudley G. Leacock, Rev. H. G. Dalton, D.D., the Rev. Fred Ellis, Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, O.B.E., Mr. R. G. Cave, Mr. E. A. Hinkson, Mr. Harold Wright, Mr. J. H. Wilkinson, Mr. A. J. Mascall, Captain W. Bowring, and Mr. J. E. Mayers in Barbados. The Committee assisted the men of these contingents besides others who came over independently to enlist, acted *in loco parentis* to them while they were on active service, tended them when sick or wounded, provided them with board and lodging while on leave, and otherwise looked after their well-being. It kept in close touch throughout with Mr. G. F. Huggins, O.B.E. and Mr. Dudley G. Leacock, to whom the credit of raising and equipping the above mentioned private contingents was mainly due.

It was at the outset distinctly understood that the Committee was not to interfere where military discipline was concerned, but it was found necessary to offer help in various matters affecting military details. For the first time in history, many thousands of non-European volunteers were taking their place side by side with white troops in European warfare, and it was not, perhaps, unnatural that difficulties and misunderstandings should occasionally have arisen. The Committee was able to afford to the War Office assistance in these matters and desires to record its appreciation of the consideration shown by the Army Council to its representations, notably in the case of those it felt it its duty to make regarding the question of the pay of the British West Indies Regiment and also in respect of the gratuities, to which reference was made in the last half-yearly report.

The activities of the Committee from the date of its formation to December 31st 1918 have been dealt with in detail in previous reports presented to contributors to the Contingent Fund. During the nine months ended September 30th last the work was carried on on the same lines as before. As was anticipated it tended to increase when the period of demobilization and repatriation began. Many fresh problems arose which called for frequent negotiations with the Colonial Office, the War Office, the Ministry of Shipping and other Government Departments.

For repatriation the various battalions of the British West Indies Regiment which at the date of the Armistice were in France, Italy, Egypt and Mesopotamia, were concentrated at Taranto, and the homeward transports left that port, Havre and Brest on various dates between April and September, 1919.

The Committee supplied games, cigarettes, etc., besides warm comforts for the early days of the voyage, to the men on each of the homeward bound transports, and these appear to have been much appreciated by all ranks.

The repatriation of officers and men from the West Indies, other than those who came over with the Contingent, was attended with greater difficulty. Owing to the demobilisation regulations not having been clearly enough explained to them overseas, many soldiers were released under the wrong group, but, on the facts being placed before that department by the Committee, the War Office consented to these men being transferred to the group which they should have selected. Repatriation was also much delayed owing to the absence of suitable shipping communication between the United Kingdom and the West Indies; but the Committee believes that as the results of its representations, the men have been repatriated considerably sooner than would otherwise have been the case.

By the end of September there only remained two hundred men of the British West Indies Regiment still to be repatriated, and at the date of this report 85 only still await passages to Jamaica.

Of the war services of the West Indians it is perhaps not the place here to speak, except to record that they met with the hearty commendation, not only of the

Regimental Commanders but also of the Commanders-in-Chief and the General Officers under whom the Regiment served. The following list shows the casualties incurred by, and the honours and distinctions awarded to, the British West Indies Regiment.

CASUALTIES.			
Killed or Died of Wounds .. .. .	..	..	185
Died of Sickness .. .. .	..	..	1,071
Wounded .. .. .	..	..	697
HONOURS AND DISTINCTIONS.			
Distinguished Service Order .. .. .	..	..	5
Military Cross .. .. .	..	..	9
Military Cross with Bar .. .. .	..	..	1
Membership of the Order of the British Empire .. .. .	..	..	2
Distinguished Conduct Medal .. .. .	..	..	8
Military Medal .. .. .	..	..	37
Military Medal with Bar .. .. .	..	..	1
Meritorious Service Medal .. .. .	..	..	13
Royal Humane Society's Medal .. .. .	..	..	4
Medaille d'Honneur .. .. .	..	..	1
Mentions in Despatches .. .. .	..	..	49

Under the auspices of the Committee, a service in memory of West Indians who had fallen or died of sickness during the war, was held in London at St. Clement Danes on Empire Day, May 24th 1919, when a stirring address was delivered by Bishop Frodsham which was subsequently published in pamphlet form.

A statement of receipts and payments for the nine months ended September 30th and the Balance Sheet, duly audited by Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., is appended to this report. The figures in this and in the six preceding statements show that the total moneys handled by the Contingent Committee amounted to £31,980 6s. 4d. Of this total, £12,574 7s. 3d. represented General Contributions; £3,005 5s. 7d. receipts on behalf of the Trinidad Merchants' and Planters' Contingent Committee; £3,610 2s. 11d. sums subscribed for expenditure on specific objects; £856 11s. 6d. receipts on behalf of the Barbados Citizens' Contingent Committee, and £6,980 15s. 4d. sums received from members of the Contingents and others, to be held in trust and paid over on demand. All moneys received have been expended with the exception of £2,198 14s. 10d., which, as shown in the Balance Sheet, represents the balances of the various Funds. The largest item of expenditure was £6,015 8s. 6d. expended on various gifts to men. Clothing and comforts accounts for £2,205 6s. 5d. and musical instruments, badges, etc., for the British West Indies Regiment £1,051, 14s. 5d. Board and lodging for men on leave absorbed £1,737 1s. 8d. The cost of administering the Fund, including all postages, telegrams, printing and clerical assistance was under 10% of the sum dealt with.

The Hon. Treasurers desire to record their great appreciation of the services of Mr. G. P. Osmond, Chief Clerk to the West India Committee, who, from its inception, has kept the accounts of the Contingent Committee, which were necessarily somewhat complicated owing to the existence of several separate funds.

Believing it to be undesirable to carry on its activities indefinitely, and those of its members who are also members of the Executive of the West India Committee having kindly consented to undertake the responsibility of attending to all outstanding matters

calling for attention, the West Indian Contingent Committee, as at present constituted, decided to terminate its work on September 30th, 1919. The functions of the Committee as from that date, the unexpended balances standing to its credit, and all outstanding liabilities on September 30th, have been transferred to these members of the West India Committee who will continue to administer the "War Charity" so far as the Funds can be applied for the purpose thereof, and, if there is any ultimate residue which cannot be applied to these objects, will apply for the sanction of the Commissioners as to the disposal of such residue. It is proposed that the balance of the General Fund, after meeting all liabilities, will be held by the above mentioned members of the West India Committee in trust for expenditure on the objects for which the Contingent Committee was formed, it being a condition of the transfer, that, subject to the consent of the Charity Commissioners, any balance remaining after the completion of the work is to be remitted to the Governors of the several West Indian Colonies, British Guiana and British Honduras, in proportion, as each of these Colonies contributed men to the Contingent, the money to be used for the benefit of repatriated soldiers in need of assistance.

Viscount Milner expressed his approval of this proposal to terminate the activities of the West Indian Contingent Committee on September 30th, in the following letter by the receipt of which the Committee was much gratified:—

DOWNING STREET,
23rd August, 1919.

SIR,

I am directed by Viscount Milner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th August, and to inform you that he concurs in the proposal that the work of the West Indian Contingent Committee should be brought to a close at the end of September next, and that its interests should be handed over to the West India Committee.

2. Lord Milner is fully aware of the valuable services rendered by the Contingent Committee in ministering to the well-being and comfort of the men of the British West Indies Regiment, and of all those from the West Indies who patriotically responded to the call for men in the great struggle which, under Providence, has been waged to a victorious conclusion. He is confident that the labours of the Committee have been highly appreciated by the troops, and also by the people of the West Indies who have subscribed generously to the funds required to carry on the work. He also desires to acknowledge the assistance rendered to the Colonial Office by the Committee and, in particular by yourself and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, the Honorary Secretary.

3. Lord Milner requests me to convey his cordial thanks to you as Chairman, to Sir F. M. Hodgson as Vice-Chairman, and to all the Members of the Committee for their valuable services; and also to Mr. Aspinall, whose readiness at all times to assist the Colonial Office in matters connected with the work of the Committee has been much valued in this Department.

4. Lord Milner also desires me to express his great appreciation of the work of the Ladies' Committee. His thanks are especially due to the Countess of Stamford, President, to Lady Dawson, Chairman, and to Miss Moseley, Honorary Secretary.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed), H. J. READ.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

In bringing this report to a close the Committee wishes to express its hearty thanks to all those, who, whether in England, the British West Indies or elsewhere, have given their help. It desires to bear testimony to the excellent work of the Ladies' Committee, and to the services of Miss Mary Moseley, M.B.E., as Honorary Secretary of that body. Miss Moseley also devoted much of her time to the work of the Committee, to which Lady Cameron, Mrs. and Miss Bamford, Mrs. John Bromley, Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Woodroffe, and other voluntary helpers also gave valuable assistance.

The Committee also wishes to express its thanks to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Staff of the Colonial Office, the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations and his Staff, to the West Indian Club, and above all to the West India Committee, which, from the first by generously putting at the services of the Contingent Committee its rooms and its organisation, has contributed in quite extraordinary degree to the success of the Contingent Committee's work.

Finally it must place on record the very great services rendered by its Honorary Secretary, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, C.M.G. His unflinching energy, his tactful and resourceful action were of great value, and the members of the West Indian Contingent, equally with the Committee, owe him a deep debt of gratitude for the work which he has so cheerfully and ungrudgingly done on their behalf.

EVERARD IM THURN,
Chairman.

FREDERIC HODGSON,
Deputy Chairman.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE ROOMS,
15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.

22nd January, 1920.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

LOCAL COMMITTEES AND HON. CORRESPONDENTS.

Antigua.—HON. D. MACDONALD.

Bahamas.—LADY ALLARDICE, LADY TUDOR, MRS. G. H. JOHNSON, M.B.E., MRS. LOFTHOUSE, M.B.E., MRS. C. MENENDEZ and MISS LOBB, *Hon. Secretary.*

Barbados.—MRS. W. L. C. PHILLIPS, MISS BRIGGS, MRS. M. WHITE, MISS M. EVELYN, MRS. GEORGE EVELYN, MRS. C. B. AUSTIN, MRS. A. G. BANCROFT, MRS. A. HUTSON, MRS. P. CLARKE, MRS. N. SIMPSON, MRS. E. COX, MRS. A. WILLIAMS, MRS. L. ARCHER, MRS. L. PILE, MRS. E. KING, MRS. J. R. PHILLIPS, MRS. J. MAHON, MRS. G. SKEETE, MISS EVELYN, MISS M. GREAVES and MRS. YEARWOOD, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE BARBADOS CITIZENS' CONTINGENT COMMITTEE. DUDLEY G. LEACOCK, ESQ., *Chairman.*

British Guiana.—J. B. CASSELS, M.B.E.

British Honduras.—THE BRITISH HONDURAS CONTINGENT SOCIETY, HON. A. R. USHER, M.B.E., *Chairman.* MRS. M. G. STEPHEN, *Secretary.*

Jamaica.—THE CONTINGENT COMFORTS COMMITTEE.—MRS. BLACKDEN, *Chairman*; MRS. J. H. PARK, *Hon. Treasurer*; MRS. LEACH, MRS. MILLS, MRS. MORRIS, MRS. ORPEN, MRS. HARRISON, MRS. PICOT, MRS. VAN ANGLEBERG, MRS. BRANCH, MRS. DOUET, MRS. MUIRHEAD, MRS. EWEN, MISS NETHERSOLE and MRS. H. C. BOURNE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Trinidad and Tobago.—THE LADIES' WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.—LADY CHANCELLOR, *President*; MRS. GORDON GORDON, *Vice-President*; MRS. BELL, MRS. BERNARD, MRS. VINCENT BROWN, MRS. RAPSEY, MRS. GEDDES GRANT, MRS. HANCOCK, MRS. HUGGINS, MISS SELLIER, MISS MAY, MISS ECKEL and MRS. JOHN WILSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE TRINIDAD MERCHANTS' AND PLANTERS' CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.—G. F. HUGGINS, ESQ., O.B.E., *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.*

Grenada.—R. HUDSON PHILLIP, ESQ.

Montserrat.—THE WOMEN'S WAR COMMITTEE.—MRS. DYETT, *President*; MRS. MARTIN, *Treasurer*; MISS BARRY, MISS DE FREITAS, MISS FURLONGE, MISS GUNN, MRS. HAINES, MRS. HEATH, MRS. NORRIS, MRS. STUDLEY, MRS. WALL, and MISS HAINES, *Hon. Secretary.*

St. Lucia.—THE FLAG DAY COMMITTEE.—MRS. POPHAM LOBB, *President*; MRS. G. O'D. WALTON, MRS. MURPHY, MRS. DEGAZON, MRS. C. PETER, MRS. G. WILLIAMS, MRS. G. LAFFITTE, MRS. HARRIS and MISS MCHUGH, *Hon. Secretary.*

¶ The Audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the nine months ended September 30th, 1919, and the Balance Sheet, are given over-leaf.

THE WEST INDIAN

Statement of Receipts and Payments

	RECEIPTS.						
	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Balance at 31st December, 1918							2,320 10 4
Further Donations received	30	1 0	1,761	3 8	1,811	0 1	3,602 4 9
Interest on Deposit	—	—	—	—	28	19 7	28 19 7
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	—	—	35	17 11	35 17 11

E. W. D. WARD,
 SYDNEY OLIVIER,
 R. RUTHERFORD,
 H. F. PREVITÉ,

Hon. Treasurers.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Hon. Secretary.

£202 7 5 £1,867 12 6 £3,917 12 8 £5,987 12 7

BALANCE SHEET,

	£	s. d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	10	11 1
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	3	19 8
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in Hand	4	6 0
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	712	0 7
„ General Fund Balance, Receipts and Payments	1,286	17 6

£2,198 14 10

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
 OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
 1st December, 1919.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

for the Nine Months ending 30th September, 1919.

PAYMENTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	—	335	15 9	565	8 10	901 4 7
Clothing and Comforts	—	—	207	1 0	238	1 11	445 2 11
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	—	78	16 5	96	3 9	175 0 2
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough	—	—	281	16 3	136	9 8	418 5 11
Gifts of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines	—	—	118	9 4	662	13 5	776 2 9
Musical Instruments for B.W.I. Regiment	—	—	—	—	9	8 11	9 8 11
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	—	—	—	53	15 4	53 15 4
Entertaining Men	—	—	—	—	44	19 0	44 19 0
Cost of Repatriation of Men	—	—	43	5 0	—	—	43 5 0
Medical and Dental Attention, Artificial Limbs, Spectacles, etc.	—	—	88	19 7	9	10 6	98 10 1
Overseas Memorial Service	—	—	—	—	24	15 4	24 15 4
Cables	—	—	6	8 7	—	—	6 8 7
Sporting Outfits and Games	—	—	—	—	48	16 10	48 16 10
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	198	1 5	—	—	—	—	198 1 5
	198	1 5	1,155	11 11	1,890	3 6	3,243 16 10
Wages and Clerical Assistance	—	—	—	—	401	8 9	401 8 9
Postage	—	—	—	—	94	14 10	94 14 10
Cablegrams	—	—	—	—	20	6 5	20 6 5
Printing and Stationery	—	—	—	—	101	1 6	101 1 6
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	50	0 2	50 0 2
Travelling Expenses	—	—	—	—	13	6 0	13 6 0
General Expenses	—	—	—	—	37	15 3	37 15 3
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	—	—	21	18 9	21 18 9
	—	—	—	—	740	11 8	740 11 8
	£198	1 5	£1,155	11 11	£2,630	15 2	£3,984 8 1
Balance	4	6 0	712	0 7	1,286	17 6	2,003 4 6
	£202	7 5	£1,867	12 6	£3,917	12 8	£5,987 12 7

30th September, 1919.

	£	s. d.
By Sums Recoverable	119	15 7
„ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	342	1 3
„ „ Cash at National Provincial and Union Bank of England on Deposit	1,600	0 0
„ „ in Hand	2	17 8
„ „ at Bank, Current Account	134	0 4
	£2,198	14 10

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
 Chartered Accountants, } Auditors.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

for the Nine Months ending 30th September, 1919.

RECEIPTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance at 31st December, 1918	172	6 5	106	8 10	2,041	15 1	2,320	10 4
Further Donations received	80	1 0	1,761	3 8	1,811	0 1	3,602	4 9
Interest on Deposit	—	—	—	—	28	19 7	28	19 7
Repatriation Expenses Recovered	—	—	—	—	35	17 11	35	17 11

*Ward
Oliver
P. Williams
P. Smith*

Hon. Treasurers.

Hon. Secretary.

£202 7 5 £1,867 12 6 £3,917 12 8 £5,987 12 7

BALANCE SHEET,

	£	s.	d.
To Sums held in Trust for Members of Contingent and others	191	11	1
„ Barbados Citizens' Contingent Fund	3	19	8
„ Donations for Special Purposes, Balance in Hand	4	6	0
„ Colonial Separate Funds, Balances unexpended	712	0	7
„ General Fund Balance, Receipts and Payments	1,286	17	6
Total	£2,198	14	10

We have examined the above Account with the

3, FREDERICK'S PLACE,
OLD JEWRY, E.C. 2.
1st December, 1919.

PAYMENTS.

	Special Purposes.		Colonial Separate Funds.		General Fund.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Board and Lodging of Men on Leave	—	—	335	15 9	565	8 10	901	4 7
Clothing and Comforts	—	—	207	1 0	238	1 11	445	2 11
Gifts to Men in Hospital	—	—	78	16 5	96	3 9	175	0 2
Gifts to Men on Sick Furlough	—	—	281	16 3	136	9 8	418	5 11
Gifts of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines	—	—	113	9 4	662	13 5	776	2 9
Musical Instruments for B.W.I. Regiment	—	—	—	—	9	8 11	9	8 11
Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects	—	—	—	—	53	15 4	53	15 4
Entertaining Men	—	—	—	—	44	19 0	44	19 0
Cost of Repatriation of Men	—	—	43	5 0	—	—	43	5 0
Medical and Dental Attention, Artificial Limbs, Spectacles, etc.	—	—	88	19 7	9	10 6	98	10 1
Overseas Memorial Service	—	—	—	—	24	15 4	24	15 4
Cables	—	—	6	8 7	—	—	6	8 7
Sporting Outfits and Games	—	—	—	—	48	16 10	48	16 10
Expended on Special Objects in accordance with Donors' Directions	198	1 5	—	—	—	—	198	1 5

Wages and Clerical Assistance	198	1 5	1,155	11 11	1,890	3 6	3,243	16 10
Postage	—	—	—	—	401	8 9	401	8 9
Cablegrams	—	—	—	—	94	14 10	94	14 10
Printing and Stationery	—	—	—	—	20	6 5	20	6 5
Rent, Lighting and Housekeeper	—	—	—	—	101	1 6	101	1 6
Travelling Expenses	—	—	—	—	50	0 2	50	0 2
General Expenses	—	—	—	—	13	6 0	13	6 0
Bank Charges, Card Index and Sundries	—	—	—	—	37	15 3	37	15 3
Total	198	1 5	1,155	11 11	2,630	15 2	3,984	8 6

Balance £4 6 0 £712 0 7 £1,286 17 6 £2,003 4 1

£202 7 5 £1,867 12 6 £3,917 12 8 £5,987 12 7

30th September, 1919.

	£	s.	d.
By Sums Recoverable	119	15	7
„ „ „ Trinidad Merchants' Fund	342	1	3
„ „ „ Cash at National Provincial and Union Bank of England on Deposit	1,600	0	0
„ „ „ in Hand	2	17	8
„ „ „ at Bank, Current Account	134	0	4
Total	£2,198	14	10

Books and Vouchers and certify it to be correct.

Walter Ansell
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE MEETING.

Col. Amery Praises West Indian Troops.

1920
The final meeting of the West Indian Contingent Committee was held at the Colonial Office at 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, January 22nd. Sir Everard in Thurn, K.C.M.G., presided, and those present included Col. L. S. Amery, M.P., Acting Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lieut.-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., V.D.; Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir George Le Hunte, G.C.M.G.; Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.; Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G.; Mr. R. Rutherford; Mr. H. F. Previté; Lady Olivier; Lady Grey-Wilson; Mrs. Rutherford; Miss Previté; and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, C.M.G. (Honorary Secretary).

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been confirmed, Sir Everard reviewed the outstanding features of the West India Contingent Committee as outlined in the report, which is published elsewhere in this CIRCULAR, laying particular stress on the activities of the Ladies' Committee, under the chairmanship of Lady Davson, with Miss Moseley as Honorary Secretary, and of those ladies who, like Mrs. Rutherford and Mrs. Rippon, had worked in their spare time. After moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman called upon Mr. Previté to explain the accounts.

Mr. Previté said the list of payments was interesting, as being typical of the different directions in which the money had been spent. He would call attention particularly to the balance-sheet, which gave the final balance on September 30th, 1919, from which it would be found that in the general fund—that is to say, money available for general purposes—they had £1,286 on that date. The expenditure for the three months ending December 31st, 1919, followed very much the same lines, except that, of course, they dealt with fewer men, and there was therefore a less rate of expenditure. There had been during that period transferred to the Trinidad Merchants Committee £777, which belonged to them, and which had not been spent on their behalf, and there were accretions on the receipts side of about £110, from further donations received, interest on deposit, and repatriation expenses recovered—with a balance to the account of the general fund of £745, which was still liable to be drawn on, as they still had something approaching eighty-five men, who might become a charge in some way to the fund. There had been taken out by the auditors a summarised statement of receipts and payments of all the moneys which had been dealt with by the Committee from September 1st, 1915, to September 30th, 1919.

It had been a characteristic of this fund that, within the scope of the work which the Committee set out to do, there had been enough money at their disposal; owing to the generosity of the people to whom the appeals were made from time to time those who had been responsible—and the Treasurers more particularly—had never had the anxiety of feeling that they did not know where to get funds from to carry out the objects of the Committee. There had been some comment made from time to time, by members of the various Contingents, arising out of two misconceptions as to the scope and objects of the fund. Men had thought, in the first place, that the Committee had funds at its disposal and should be in a position

to make gifts in money to men who had come up to London on leave, and so forth. In point of fact it would be found that the Committee only had, from first to last, £12,500 as being for its general objects. As the total number of the Contingent was upwards of 15,000 men, there was no scope in that to give money gifts generally to individual men. Then, again, men had thought that if the Committee had not these large funds at its disposal it ought to have them.

Those were two misconceptions. The Committee never intended to supplement the pay of the men or to make doles lavishly to individuals. Its objects had been explained by the Chairman, but the best idea of the objects on which the money was expended, and on which the Committee intended it to be expended, could be seen from the list of payments shown in the report. It was intended to give general help, it was intended to help necessitous cases, and the distribution of such gifts as could be made generally, and to be of general use to the men, and individual cases were only treated when there was really urgent necessity for it. To come to the question of direct pecuniary advantage to the men of the contingents, certainly they should be grateful to the Committee, for it was undoubtedly owing to the work of certain influential members of the Committee that questions concerning increased pay and gratuities were finally straightened out, and it was estimated that that must have put a sum of £250,000 into the pockets of the men of the West Indian Contingents. So on a mere matter of money they had very little to complain of.

The Committee felt that, as regards funds, they had all the money that was necessary for the purposes for which they were founded, and they believed that these results showed that the money was well and wisely expended for the good of those whom it was intended to benefit.

Sir Frederic Hodgson seconded the motion for the adoption of the report, and expressed the Committee's appreciation of the assistance rendered by the Colonial Office. He also paid a tribute to the West India Committee, without whose kindness in placing their staff, machinery and accommodation at the disposal of the Contingent Committee, it was difficult to say how the latter would have been able to carry on.

Sir George Le Hunte spoke of the splendid work which had been done by the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Aspinall, in helping West Indians in difficulties. Numerous were the cases he (Sir George) had referred to him, and never had he heard of a single case which had failed to get Mr. Aspinall's help and sympathy.

Colonel Amery, who was very cordially received, said that the meeting marked the close of a very interesting and indeed remarkable chapter in the military history of the British Empire—a chapter to which the historian of the future might possibly assign greater importance than could have been done by the public amid the intense and urgent preoccupations of the actual contest. He continued:—

"We have all been impressed by the wonderful spectacle of the way in which the great Dominions and India have come forward in the struggle for our common liberties, but it is at least as significant to think that the native population of the West Indies should have come forward voluntarily in the way they did to take part in this great struggle. It is a very remarkable thing politically; it is also a remarkable testimony, I think, to the patriotism and courage of the men who did it.

"After all, we have got to look at the effort they made from the point of view of their own conditions. They were not going across a narrow channel to face dangers and conditions more or less known to them. They came from the warm climate and conditions of the West Indies to face conditions which, from their point of view, were extremely different and extremely hard. For the West Indian to face the cold of winter in the

trenches in France meant an effort and an undertaking involving as much sacrifice as that of an Englishman volunteering to serve for a jungle campaign in Africa. Indeed, that that is no mere idle theory is shown by the actual casualty list of the Contingents. They sent practically 16,000 men—men who served and fought in almost every theatre of war—in France, Italy, Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia—and who, by the reports of the Generals under whom they served and of their own commanding officers, did good service, won commendation in despatches, and individually won many honours. Their success was due to the good qualities of the men themselves; it was also due in no small measure to the splendid work done by the officers and the commanding officers of the battalions—men who had in many cases a very difficult task, and who fulfilled it with great credit to themselves and to the British Army, of which, at any rate for the purposes of this great war, they were a part. ("Hear, hear.")

"That effort could only have been carried out successfully as the result of the work which this Committee put into it. It was this Committee which first gave coherent organisation and shape to the voluntary movement in the West Indies, secured the consent—the willing consent—and approval of the War Office at every stage, helped the Contingent in the actual problems that arose in dealing with the War Office—problems of pay, of conditions of service, of gratuities—and, as Mr. Previté remarked, in that way rendered very great services to the men of the Contingent over and above those rendered in the actual distribution of gifts and comforts from the voluntary funds.

"I do not think I am in a position really to speak as well as others can of the splendid work which the members of the Committee have done. I know well that from you, Sir Everard, down—not forgetting the indefatigable efforts of the Secretary and of the ladies—the members of the Committee have toiled and worked to make this thing a success, and a success it has been. And now that particular chapter is closed; but I only hope it marks the beginning of a new chapter of brighter promise, and of prosperity and success to the West Indies." (Applause.)

Sir William Grey-Wilson expressed the opinion that war had been to the West Indies of the greatest national and political importance. The story of the prowess and the doings of the Contingents would be told from generation to generation, and would be an incentive and a link with the Empire it might not otherwise be easy to forge.

Sir Sydney Olivier, in proposing a vote of thanks to the West India Committee, said: "The enormous number of personal cases that Mr. Aspinall and Miss Moseley have dealt with by conversation with men, the mass of sometimes illegible correspondence, the almost inconceivable writing and syntax they have waded through, can only be realised by a personal visit to the offices of the West India Committee. All that work has been carried on at considerable inconvenience in their rooms, which are already too small for them, and I think we owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Rutherford and his Committee, and a very sincere debt of gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Aspinall and Miss Moseley."

Mr. Rutherford responded on behalf of the Committee, and assured previous speakers that it had been a great pleasure to help the Contingent Committee in every possible way. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried enthusiastically, and with this the proceedings terminated.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT FUND.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS for the period from September 30th, 1919 to 30th June, 1921.

RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS						
	Colonial Separate Funds		General Fund	Total		Special Purposes		Colonial Separate Funds	General Fund	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Balance at 30th September, 1919	4 6 0	712 0 7	1,286 17 6	2,003 4 1				711 3 9		711 3 9
Further Donations Received			30 2 3	30 2 3						
Interest on Deposit			42 9 3	42 9 3						
Repatriation Expenses Recovered			149 0 0	149 0 0						
					Transfer to Trinidad Merchants Contingent					
					Board and Lodgings of men on leave and awaiting Repatriation			532 15 0		532 15 0
					Clothing and Comforts			153 12 7		153 12 7
					Gifts to men in Hospital			49 2 1		49 2 1
					Ditto on Furlough and awaiting Repatriation			135 16 7		135 16 7
					Ditto of Tobacco, Cigarettes and Magazines				16 10	20 7 9
					Carriage of Gifts and Men's Effects			21 0 5		21 0 5
					Entertaining Men			7 8 7		7 8 7
					Cost of Repatriation of Men			134 1 5		134 1 5
					Medical and Dental attention				5 10 0	5 10 0
					Visits to Graves, Wreaths, etc.			25 8 6		25 8 6
					Cables			13 8 3		13 8 3
					Sporting Outfits and Games			13 19 6		13 19 6
					Christmas Gifts			30 9 1		30 9 1
					Returned to Donor	4 6 0				4 6 0
						4 6 0	712 0 7	1,142 2 11	1,858 9 6	
					Wages and Clerical Assistance			231 4 1		
					Postage			16 14 11		
					Travelling Expenses			1 9 0		
					General Expenses			13 12 3		
					Printing and Stationery			29 15 6		
					Bank Charges			1 7 6		
					Audit Fees			42 0 0		336 3 3
					Balance, viz.:					
					Cash at Bank	15 2 10				
					Loan Outstanding	15 0 0				
								30 2 10		30 2 10
				<u>£4 6 0 712 0 7 1,508 9 0 2,224 15 7</u>						<u>£4 6 0 712 0 7 1,508 9 0 2,224 15 7</u>

R. RUTHERFORD
WILLIAM GILLESPIE
H. F. PREVITÉ
ALGERNON ASPINALL

Examined and found correct.
3, Frederick's Place,
Old Jewry, London, E.C.2. PRICE, WATERHOUSE & Co.
9th August, 1921.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT FUND.

Dr. Final statement of payments for the period from July 1st, 1921, to April 12th, 1922. Cr.

			£ s. d.				£ s. d.
Balance at July 1st, 1921			30 2 10	Board and Lodging			9 14 2
R. RUTHERFORD	}	<i>Hon. Treasurers.</i>		Clothing, boots, etc.			3 14 6
WILLIAM GILLESPIE						2 7 6	
H. F. PREVITÉ						1 5 0	
ALGERNON ASPINALL						18 0	
				Gift to man in hospital			11 6
				Gratuities to ex-Service men			11 12 2
			<u>£30 2 10</u>				<u>£30 2 10</u>

We have examined the above Account with the Books and Vouchers, and certify it to be correct.
3, Frederick's Place,
Old Jewry, E.C.2.
May 9th, 1922.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & Co., Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee.

A meeting was held at the office of Sir Edward Lord Bart. K.C.V.O., K.C.B., Scotland House, Westminster on Tuesday September 14th 1915 at 12.30 P.M.

Present: Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B. in the Chair, Sir Sydney Oliver K.C.M.G. Sir Edward Lord Bart K.C.V.O., K.C.B. Mr. H. Guthrie-Johnson, and Mr. Algernon L. Aspinall Hon Secretary.

Draft appeal approved.

A draft appeal for funds was read and approved and the Hon Secretary was authorised to circulate it among those interested in or connected with the British West Indies and to secure its publication - mutatis mutandis - in the Press.

Lord Harcourt
Lord Glenconner
Sir G. Grey Gibson
& Sir F. Fleming
to be invited to
join the C.I.
Contingent Com^{tee}

It was agreed to invite the Earl of Harcourt K.C.V.O. President of the West India Committee, Lord Glenconner, Sir William Grey Gibson and Sir Francis Fleming to join the West Indian Contingent Committee and to sign the appeal which would also be signed by the members of the General Purposes Committee.

Read letter (Sep: 15) from Mr. McCann of the Y.M.C.A. enclosing a copy of a letter from the Association's representative at Seafood dealing with the reception of the British Guiana Detachment on September 6th.

It was agreed to defray the cost of stoves for the Y.M.C.A. hut.

Offer to Bermuda

The Hon: Secretary reported that Mr. Darroby of

accepted.

the Colonial Office had advised him of the receipt of a telegram from the Governor of Bermuda gratefully accepting the Committee's offer of assistance to the Bermuda Contingent attached to the 1st Lincolnshire Regiment and enquiring as to the scope of the work of the Committee.

Edward in Thurn

29. 11. 15

A meeting was held at the office of Sir Edward Ward, 1 Bart., N.C. V.O., N.C. 13., Scotland House, Westminster on Wednesday September 29th 1915 at 4. p.m.

Present:- Sir Everard im Thurn, N.C. M.G., C. 13., in the Chair; Sir Sydney Olivier, N.C. M.G.; Sir Edward Ward, 1 Bart., N.C. V.O., N.C. 13., Mr. 18. Rutherford; Mr. Algernon V. Aspinall, Hon. Secretary; and, Mr. 1 Bernard 1 Boujuw, Hon. Assistant Secretary.

Minutes read.

The minutes of the last meeting held September 14th were taken as read and confirmed.

Funds to-date

The Hon. Secretary reported that £542.-6 had been subscribed up to date, and there were promises of £200 more.

Authority to pay
for 3 stoves

A letter dated September 25th from the Young Men's Christian Association was read, and it was agreed to pay £15, the cost of the three stoves for the hut.

Refusal to
contribute towards
concert party

with reference to the letter of the 21st September from the Young Men's Christian Association it was decided that it was inadvisable at present to contribute towards concert parties.

Offers of
assistance

The Hon. Secretary mentioned that letters and offers of assistance had been received from the following:- Mr. Cunningham Craig, Mr.

Moody Stuart, Mr. Brownley, Mr. James & Richmond,
Mr. Rippon, Com. Coombs, Miss Knowley, The
Church Army, Hon. Mr. Edwards, and Lady Hayes Sadler

Miss Knowley to
be Secretary[†] and
form Ladies
Committee.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to
arrange with Miss Knowley as Secretary for
the formation of a Ladies Committee, and
the subject of warm clothing and comforts for
the men of the Contingent to be referred
to this Committee.

Lady Olivier's
offer to assist

Sir Sydney Olivier mentioned that
Lady Olivier would be pleased to assist on
the Ladies Committee.

Footballs re: for
use of men.

A letter was read from Lieut. Craig
asking for footballs and musical instruments
for the use of the men of the Contingent
stationed at Sussex, and the Secretary was
authorised to obtain some.

Sir B. Boyle's
contribution of
£3.3.0 objected to

A letter was read from Sir Cavendish
Boyle, K.C.M.G., enclosing £3.3.0 contribution
to the W. I. C. Committee under the designation
of "Hon. C. B. West India Committee & W. I. Club
subscriptions saved". The Hon. Secretary was
instructed to inform Sir Cavendish Boyle
that the amount could not be accepted under
these terms, and enquire of Sir Cavendish Boyle
what he desired should be done with the cheque.

Everard in Thoms

~~15-10-15~~

A meeting was held at the office of Sir Edward Ward, Bart., H.C.V.O., H.C.J., Scotland House, Westminster, Friday October 15th 1915 at 10.30 a.m.

Present:- Sir Edward in the Chair, H.C.M.J., C.J., in the Chair; Sir Edward Ward, Bart., H.C.V.O., H.C.J., Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Bernard Boyum, Hon. Asst. Secretary;

Minutes read

The minutes of the last meeting held September 29th were taken as read and confirmed.

Report of visit to Seaford.

The report of Messrs: Rutherford, Aspinall, and Boyum's visit to Seaford was read and it was agreed as follows:-

Band.

To recommend to the Executive Committee that:- (i) Band Instruments be bought, and a Band be started; and (ii) That a Regimental Institute be instituted furnished with a piano etc.

Regimental Institute

Bugles

Typewriter's desk

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to purchase some bugles, a typewriter and office-desk, and the expenditure to be confirmed by the Executive Committee.

East Indians

It was decided that this Committee could not interfere with the question of the disposal of East Indians among the B.W. I's, and Colonel Barchard was to be so notified.

Permission to have concert-party.

Permission was given to hold a concert-party on Saturday night once a fortnight at the Y.M.C.A. but at a cost not exceeding £2 each time, and to

Reading room to furnish the Reading Room with such daily newspapers
newspapers & as Colonel Barchard should recommend.

Magazines to
be given.

Sir Edward Ward said that Camps
Library would give as many magazines as were
required.

Ladies
Committee

A letter was read from Miss Mowley and
it was decided to recommend to the Executive
Committee: - that a Ladies Committee be formed,
that H. H. Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-
Holstein be asked to give her patronage to the
movement, and Lady Stamford be invited to
be President with the following ladies, ^{*} together
with the wives of the members of the Committee,
as a Committee.

The Chairman promised to ask Messrs.
Harrods to give the Ladies either an empty
house in Trevor Square or some rooms where
they might meet, & store their comforts & clothing.

Funds to date

The total amount of funds to-date was
reported to be £ 1710.6.6

* How: Mr. Henry Edwards, Lady Phillips
Lady French, Lady Hays Dales, Lady Oliver
Lady de Monte, Mr. Bronly, Mr. Pippow,
Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Moody-Stuart,
Mr. Cunningham Craig, Mr. James Richmond.

Edward M. Thurn

A meeting was held at the office of Sir Edward Ward, 1 Bart., H.C.V.O., H.C.13., Scotland House, Westminster, Friday November 12th 1915. at 12.30 p.m.

Present:- Sir Edward in Thurn, H.C.M.G., C.13., in the chair; Sir Edward Ward, 1 Bart., H.C.V.O., H.C.13.; Mr. Robert Rutherford; Mr. Algernon D. Arpinall, Hon. Secretary; and Mr. Bernard Bouyew, Hon. Assistant Secretary.

Minutes read The minutes of the last meeting held October 15th 1915 were taken as read and confirmed.

State of fund The Hon. Secretary reported donations to be to 11th Nov. 15 £ 2,341:8:6 and expenses £ 75:3:3.

Expenses for:- The following expenditure was approved of:-
Trevor Square £ 30:- to furnish No. 5, Trevor Square.
Men attending £ 7:8:5 expenses of officers and men of the
Lord Mayor's show Contingent attending the Lord Mayor's show.
C.O.'s Fund £ 10.0.0 to start Commanding Officer's Fund.

Roll of Regt. It was agreed to defray the expense to be printed of printing a Roll of the Regiment.

Sir G. R. Leake It was decided to invite Sir George
Sir H. A. Blake & R. Leake, H.C.M.G., and Sir Henry A.
added to Executive Blake, G.O.M.G., F.R.G.S., D.L., to serve
and on the Executive Committee, and Sir F. M.
Sir F. M. Hodgson Hodgson, H.C.M.G., to serve on the
added to G.P. General Purposes Committee.
Committee

Capt. Thorne's
appeal agit.
reduction in
rank.

A confidential letter from Capt. W. N. G. Thorne was read who states that Colonel Barchard had informed him that the War Office intended reducing all the officers of the contingent to Second Lieutenants, and asking the Hon. Secretary to do anything in his power to prevent this step being taken. The Committee decided that it was a matter of Army discipline which could not be interfered with by them.

Letter to Colonel
Office

The Hon. Secretary reported that a letter drafted by the Chairman and himself, setting out the progress and objects of the Committee, had been sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Letter from.

A letter was read from Mr. W. L. C. Phillips in Barbados.

Recent arrivals
from Leeward
Islands & S. Lucia

The Hon. Secretary reported the arrival of 3 officers and 106 men from the Leeward Islands, 1 Lieutenant and 100 men from S. Lucia, 29 rank and file from Barbados, and 30 from British Guiana.

Strength of
Conty. raised to
5,000.

The Hon. Secretary reported that he had been informed by the Colonial Office that another 1,000 men had been accepted from Jamaica, and 2,000 drafts are expected for the Contingent within 12 months, thus making the strength of the Contingent 5,000.

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee at
Scotland House, Monday Dec. 13 1915

Present: Sir Edward Im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Col. Sir Edward Bant K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.
Mr. R. Rutterford
& " Algernon L. Aspinall Hon. Sec:

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read.

State of Fund. The Hon Sec: reported that the Fund stood at
£3,039.13.3 including various sums ear-
marked for special purposes.

Financial
arrangements
for Ladies' Sec. The transfer of £50 to Harrods Ltd for credit
of the Ladies' Committee & the payment of their
account for £24-15.10 for furnishing 5, Trevelyan
Square was approved.

Chairman's
report on visit
to Seafield. The Chairman presented a report on a visit
which he had paid to Seafield Camp in company
with Sir George Le Hunt, Sir Sydney Olivier and
the Hon Secs: The Colonel had, he said, assured
him that the men of the B. G. I. Regiment
were adequately supplied with warm clothes
& comforts. He was emphatic as to the desirability
of furnishing the Regiment with Band Instru-
ments.

Gift of Band
instruments
authorised. After discussion it was decided to authorise
the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £200
(two hundred pounds) on the purchase of
instruments for a brass band.

Ladies' visit
to Seaforth.

The Chairman further reported that Lady Grey-Gilson and Miss Moreley had also visited the Camp & had expressed the opinion that all that was immediately needed was a supply of Balaclava Helmets for the Hospital which they inspected.

Distribution
of gifts.

Arrangements for the receipt and distribution of gifts were discussed. The Hon. Sec. reported that the Colonial Office had, at his request, cabled to the best Indian Governors requesting them to let it be known that the Committee could only undertake to handle gifts for general ^{or} distribution to individuals when sent by recognised bodies willing to defray the expense of carriage and duties in this country. This was approved.

Everard in Thurn 6.1.1916

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held
at Scotland House on January 6th 1916.

Present Sir Everard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Col. Sir Edward Bland K.C.V.O., K.C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson
Mr. G. Hutterford
& .. Algernon L. Crippall Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were
confirmed.

It was decided to recommend to the Executive
Committee that they should approve the gift
of instruments for Drum & Fife bands & sporting
tackle to each of the Battalions.

It was decided to recommend the continuance of
the Y.M.C.A. concert for a further month.

Directives regarding gifts which had been
drawn up were approved.

Everard in Thurn
17 March 1916

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at
the Board of Agriculture on March 17th 1916

Present Sir Oswald in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
W. R. Gutterford
& Mr. Algernon L. Aspinall Hon. Sec.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read
and confirmed.

The Hon Secretary reported that donations amounting
to £3642.1.3 had been received towards the
best Indian Contingent Fund, besides £960.14.11
 earmarked for special purposes.

The total outgoings to date had been £474.17.

He further reported that the 1st, 2^d & 3^d Battalions
of the British West Indies were now in Egypt.

The Verdala was expected to arrive with 731 men &
23 Officers from Jamaica early in April. She would
then leave for British Honduras, pick up 300 men
there and 1100 at Jamaica and return to Plymouth.
She would subsequently collect men from Barbados
and the Islands.

Sir Sydney Olivier reported that on the occasion
of a recent visit to Plymouth he had found the
arrangements satisfactory.

A letter was read from the Gen Office (March 6th)

in which it was stated that it was not proposed to return convalescents of the B. G. 1's to this country except when it might be necessary to repatriate them.

Arrangements for repatriating Private G. D. Cameron 5251 4/4th Royal Fusiliers who came over with the Second Trinidad Merchants Contingent & had been discharged as medically unfit were approved.
(S.S. Sargasso March 25)

The Action of the Secretary with regard to Private Daisey 2002 27th Royal Fusiliers of S^o Kitts was approved.

Everard Withers

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at
the Board of Agriculture on March 25th, 1916

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
and Mr. Algernon L. Crespinall Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read
and confirmed.

Lt Colonel R. G. M. Gilson O.C. the Depot of the
British West Indies Regiment at Bithnoe Camp
attended by invitation to discuss with the Committee
the requirements of the men under his command.

There were under his charge about 330 men of
the British West Indies Regiment. 66 were to be
returned as medically unfit. Greater care was
needed in the selection of recruits. He would supply
the Committee with Battalion & Depot Orders.

He would be glad to have 4 Bugles, 2 Side
drums & a gramophone.

He would inform the Committee when the invalided
men were to sail.

It was decided to supply the musical instruments
specified above & to get authority from the Executive.

Edward in Thurn

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held
at Scotland House on June 8th 1916

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Colonel Sir Edward Card Bart K.C.V.O.
Sir James Hager, Doctor K.C.M.G., C.B.
W. R. Rutherford
& " Algernon Despinall Hon. Sec.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were
read & confirmed.

The Hon. Treasurers reported that donations
amounting to £3849.3.1 had been received
to May 31st besides £1028.17 earmarked for
special purposes & £43.7.5 interest on
deposit and investments.

A gratuity of £20 to G. S. Ormond for
keeping the accounts & a donation to Miss
Porteus for typing, at the discretion of the
Hon. Treasurers were approved.

The arrival was reported of the 4th Battalion
at Plymouth under Major Hart comprising
22 Officers & 882 men. It was further
reported that 2nd Lieuts Treleaven, Baquie &
Isaac and 200 invalids had been left at
Bermuda to await a vessel to take
them to Jamaica.

The Secretary reported that 36 men
invalided from Egypt were at Tooting Military
Hospital & that the Committee were providing

In their comfort.
Everard in Thurn

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at the West India Committee Rooms on June 30th, 1916.

Present; Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G. C.B.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G.

Mr R. Rutherford

• Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. Sec.

Minutes read

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Funds

An audit of the accounts up to the 30th June 1916 by Mess^{rs} Price Waterhouse & Co. was approved.

A purchase of £500 worth of Treasury Bills was also approved.

Convalescents at
Tooting & Bethnal Green
Hospitals.

With reference to a letter from the War Office of March 6th it was decided to inquire again whether the men now in the Tooting & Bethnal Green Military Hospitals were to be repatriated or returned to Egypt at a later date.

Should the former be the case, it was decided to give the men a short drive round London before their departure.

Letters from
Major Hart, O.C.
4th Service Batt.

In reply to letters from Major Hart, O.C. 4th Service Battalion it was agreed that certain musical instruments should be supplied as was done to the other battalions.

The purchase of helmet flashers & a typewriter was also approved.

It was agreed that the Secretary should write to the Admiralty and endeavour to make arrangements for the conveyance of a stone in one of H.M. Ships to from Halifax to Bermuda ^{wherein} that the Battalion wished to erect in memory of the men who died in Bermuda before departure.

Regimental Badges. A letter from Sir Edward Ward was ready, stating that the new design for the Regimental Badge would shortly be forwarded and it was decided that estimates should be obtained for the supply of these badges.

The appointment of Mr. G. B. Smith-Rouse as Assistant Honorary Secretary was approved.

Everard in Thurn

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee at
15, Seething Lane on August 18th 1916

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
Mr. R. Hutcheson
& .. Algernon & Aspinall Hon. Sec:

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

It was decided to recommend the issue of an interim report to June 30 1916, and the accounts as audited by Messrs Price Waterhouse & Co were approved.

The text of a card giving information regarding the objects of the Committee was approved.

Subject to confirmation by the Executive, it was decided to give Miss Moreley an honorarium of £50 for the quarter for her services as assistant.

Correspondence regarding the distribution of dutiable gifts was laid on the table, and the Secretary reported the arrangements made in this connection.

Edward in Thurn
3rd Oct. 1916

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
held at Scotland House on October 3rd 1916.

Present: Sir Everard im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Bant K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
Mr. R. Guthrie
& " Algerna E. Aspinall Hon. Sec:

Minutes read.

The Minutes of a Meeting held on August 18th were read and confirmed.

Health of men
at Brit and Bay
Camp.

A discussion took place regarding the health of the men at Brit and Bay Camp. Correspondence was laid on the table & Sir Edward Bant said that he had taken the matter up with Sir Alfred Keogh & that the men had been moved into huts.

War Charities
Act.

The Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Hon. Secretary were authorised to sign an application for the Registration of the West Indian Contingent Committee under the War Charities Act 1916.

Card Index
of casualties.

Arrangements made with the Colonial Office for the supply and maintenance of a card index of casualties in the British West Indies Regiment was approved.

Gift Boxes of
Chocolate, for
Xmas.

It was decided to present to each officer, non-commissioned officer and man of the British West Indies Regiment a box of chocolate bearing



Sir Edward Card

May I move that in adopting
this report we express our
gratitude to Mr Aspinwall for
his devoted & successful work
~~for the~~

Sir Edward Barend

You did not comply
with ~~your~~ my instructions
about journey - so I am
sorry to propose an amendment
Sorry to bother you

the Badge of the Regiment. The arrangements
in this connection to be made by the Deputy-
Chairman & Hon: Secretary.

Letters were read from Colonel Hart regarding
rations & warm clothing

F. M. Stodgson

Deputy Chairman

3rd Nov. 1916

The Minutes of a meeting of the General
Purposes Committee - November 3rd 1916

Present Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.,
& Mr. Algernon E. Aspinal Hon. Sec:

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were
read & confirmed.

Badges accept-
ed by the
King

A letter was read from the Equerry to the
King thanking the Committee for a Badge
of the British West Indies Regiment which His
Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept.
(Oct. 4th)

and Mr.
Benar Law

A letter was also read from the Under Secretary
of State on behalf of Mr. Benar Law thanking
the Committee for a badge & acknowledging
the receipt of a copy of the Report of the
Contingent Committee to June 30th. (Oct 17)
The publication of these letters was authorised.

Offer of rebate
on sales of
badges accept-
ed.

Letters were read from Messrs. J. R. Gaunt & Sons
offering to credit the Committee with a rebate
on all replicas of the badge of the British
West Indies Regiment sold by them. The offer was
gratefully accepted.

Pay for men
in hospital.

It was decided to address a letter to the
War Office on the subject of pay for men in
hospital many complaints having been re-
ceived from men from overseas as to lack of
money whilst invalided. Meanwhile the Secretary
was authorised to advance sums up to 5/-
per man in necessitous cases.

Small advances
authorised.

Board & Lodg-
ing for men
discharged
from hospital.

It was decided to pay the cost of Board & Lodging for one week of men from the best Indies on furlough after discharge from hospital & having nowhere else to go to. The rate to be 30/- per week.

The Secretary to
visit Plymouth.

Mr. Aspinall was authorised to visit Plymouth & to report on the condition of the camp there.

Comforts for
Colonel Hart's
Battalion.

The Deputy-Chairman consented to see Sir Edward Barch with regard to letters from Colonel Hart asking for oil-stoves, saw-vesters and snow boots for the men under his command.

Pensions.

It was decided to write to the Statutory Pensions Committee with regard to pensions for the dependants of men from overseas killed or dying on active service.

Christmas
Gifts

Arrangements regarding Christmas Gifts were reported & the Secretary stated that £250 had been received for the British Guiana men in the British West Indies Regiment.

Gratuities for
the Staffs.

It was decided to place at the disposal of the West India Committee the sum of £60 to cover the gratuities already made & to be made during the year 1917 to the clerical staff for services rendered.

Edward Matthews

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee November 30 1916.

Present: Sir Edward im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Gardiner K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Mr. R. Rutherford
& " Algernon Osipinalla Hon. Sec:

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read
and confirmed.

Investment of
£2000.

The investment of £2000 was authorised it
being decided to purchase Treasury Bonds (6 Mos)
to the value of £2000.

Donations from
Antigua &
Trinidad.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a further
donation of £50 from the Antigua War Fund
and of £250 to be held earmarked for
Trinidad men.

Strength of
B.W.I. Regt.

It was mentioned that the strength of the
B.W.I. Regt. was to be increased by the
formation of a 6th Battalion.

Complaints
from Plymouth.

Several letters of complaint from men at
Plymouth were read and it was decided to
continue to endeavour to secure the repatri-
ation of invalids as speedily as possible.

Repatriation
letter to War Office.

A draft letter to the War Office regarding the
repatriation of men of independent con-
tingents was approved.

Christmas gifts.

Arrangements regarding Christmas Gifts were
reported & it was decided to make a suitable
present to every man connected with the
West Indies in H.M. Forces.

Gifts to 5th & 2^d
Batt.

Letters having been read from the Comman-
ding Officers it was decided to present:

- (a) A Royal Typewriter
6 flutes 2 side drums 2 music to the
5th Battalion.
- (b) Musical instruments to the 2nd Battalion

Shoes for 4th Bn.

It was decided to contribute towards the cost of shoes for the 4th Battalion.

False teeth for
L. L. Johnson.

The expenditure of £4.4 on a set of false teeth for L. Eric Johnson of Barbados was approved.

Evered in Thoms 15.1.17

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
January 15th 1917

Present Sir Edward im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Card Bent K.C.B., K.C.M.G.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G.
& Mr. R. Rutter junr
with Mr. Algernon L. Aspinall

Hon. Sec:

Minutes. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read & confirmed.

State of Fund. Estimated position of Fund

Balance at Bank	£ 700-16-6
On deposit	£ 1260
Invested	£ 1945-2-11

£ purchase of £2000 Treasury Bills maturing in June.

Proposed Bermuda Committee. Outstanding Accounts £520.
Correspondence with Mr. Hippen regarding the formation of a Bermuda Committee was laid on the table, & it appearing that the Governor of Bermuda had accepted the offer of the West Indian Contingent Committee to look after the welfare of Bermuda men, it was decided to cooperate with the Bermuda Committee then formed.

Revised "Directives as to gifts." The Hon. Secretary reported the arrangements made regarding the distribution of Christmas gifts & revised "Directives as to Gifts" were approved.

Men in hospital. The despatch of gifts of writing tablets to men in hospital in France was authorised.

A draft letter to the Post Office regarding

the repatriation of men discharged from the Army was approved.

Board & medical fees for an invalided Barbadian.

It was agreed to pay the fees & charges in connection with board & medical attendance for a Barbados man who came over to join H.P.M. Forces but was invalided before doing so. The Secretary reported that the man had since enlisted.

Termination of tenancy of 5, Trevor Square.

A letter was read from Harrods Ltd giving notice to terminate the tenancy of 5, Trevor Square on April 11th (Jan: 11). The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the notice and to thank Harrods Ltd for the accommodation afforded.

Typewriter for Transport Officer.

The purchase of a typewriter for the transport officer of the British West Indies Regiment was authorised.

Ernest Withers
19. March 1917

Downing Street.

1st March, 1917.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr Secretary Long to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 13th February with regard to the appointment of a Bermuda Contingent Committee and to inform you that there appears to have been some misunderstanding in the matter.

The work which the Bermuda Government desires to be taken over by the new Committee is that which was previously performed by Mrs Richard Tucker who has been charged with the administration of the "Governor's Fund"; and the duties connected with certain additional funds authorised by the House of Assembly.

The Governor does not express any wish that the work hitherto done by the West India Contingent Committee should be handed over, but hopes that the new Committee will be able to co-operate more closely with the West India Contingent Committee than was possible for Mrs Tucker. He trusts that your Committee will continue to assist as opportunity offers.

Sir George Bullock has also asked Mr Long to express to the West India Contingent Committee his Government's deep appreciation of their services.

I am,

Sir, your obedient servant,

(signed) G. Grindle.

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee 19 MAR 1917

Present: Sir Everard im Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Edward Card K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

Sir Frederic Hodgson V.D., K.C.M.G.

Mr. R. Rutherford.

Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall Hon. Sec.

Minutes read.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

State of Funds.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the approximate total receipts to date were £ 7,000.10.0 and the outgoings £ 3960

Bermuda Committee

The Chairman reported the position with regard to the proposed Bermuda Committee, and read a letter from the Colonial Office on the subject. It was decided to suggest to the Colonial Office that a member of the Contingent Committee might sit on the Bermuda Committee and a member of the Bermuda Committee on the General Purposes Committee of the Contingent Committee. The Chairman agreed to write to Mr. Rippon of the Bermuda Committee on the subject.

Gifts to Hospitals &c.

The despatch of various gifts including 600 pairs of gloves to the 4th British West Indies Regiment & comforts to the Marseilles Stationary Hospital was approved.

Trinidad Ladies Committee

A letter from Mrs. Gordon announcing the formation of a Ladies West India Committee in Trinidad & forwarding £150 for Trinidad men was read (2.2.17) & the Hon. Sec. was instructed to thank Mrs. Gordon & their friends for their action in the matter.

Ladies Committee Secretaries

On receipt of a report from Lady Dawson, it was decided to continue the services of the

LADIES WEST INDIA COMMITTEE

(TRINIDAD & TOBAGO BRANCH.)

President.

LADY CHANCELLOR.

Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer.

MRS. GORDON GORDON.

Hon: Secretary.

MRS. JOHN WILSON.

Committee.

Mrs. BELL,

„ BERNARD,

„ VINCENT BROWN,

Mr. Rapsay

Mrs. GEDDES GRANT,

„ HANCOCK,

„ HUGGINS.

Miss Sellers

The above Committee has been formed with a view to co-operating with and helping the West India Committee in England, which is doing such excellent work in assisting and keeping in touch with West Indian men who are serving their country.

The chief ways in which we can help are these:—

- (1) Giving money.
- (2) Making warm garments, etc. for the men *in the trenches*.
- (3) Letting each West Indian at the front know that the West India Committee in London is able and anxious to help him in every possible way.
- (4) Compiling complete lists of the names and addresses of *all* the Trinidad and Tobago men who are serving with the Colours in any capacity.

To make this list correct and complete the Committee appeals to all relatives and friends to send the following particulars of their friends at once to the Hon. Secretary, at 17 Stanmore Avenue, Port-of-Spain:—

Name, Rank, Number, Battalion, Present Address, Place and Date of Joining, (Whether in Trinidad or elsewhere.)

N. B.—These particulars are *not* wanted concerning the men in the British West Indies regiment, as these will be obtained from the Staff Officer.

As the matter of funds is a very urgent one it is hoped that all who have friends and relatives serving will send their donations however small as soon as possible to the Hon. Treasurer at Knowsley, Port-of-Spain.

Flag day.

Caretaker & to lease a room at 15, Seething Lane at a rent of £30 per annum on a yearly tenancy.

A proposal to hold a "Flag day" in the West Indies in aid of the Fund was approved & it was decided to approach the Colonial Office with the view to the despatch of a Circular telegram to the Colonies on the subject.

Half-yearly meeting.

It was decided to hold the half-yearly meeting of the Contingent Committee on Tuesday April 17 if the Conference Room at the Colonial Office were available on that date.

Everard in Thurn

6
2

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
May 15th 1917.

- Minutes read. The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.
- Report and accounts approved. A draft report & the audited accounts for the half year ended December 31st 1917 were considered & approved.
- Meeting. It was decided to hold the half-yearly meeting of the Committee on June 5th at the best Indian Club.
- Cases for relief &c. The Committee had under consideration various cases calling for action. It was decided to pay the fee for a ear specialist for St^e Pestano 27,779 to ~~liquidate~~^{pay off} a debt owing by a junior officer to a Club waiter upon receiving an assignment of it & to write to the Paymaster regarding separation allowances.
- Flag Day. The Secretary reported the arrangements made for the best Indian Flag day, and they were approved.
- Chocolate Boxes. The Secretary reported that the Chocolate Boxes saved ex Borna had been forwarded per S.S. Sardinia to Egypt.
- Edward in Thurn

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
June 26th 1917. (Scotland House)

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr R. Hutterford

+ " Algernon Caspiall Hon. Sec:

Minutes

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

State of Fund.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the receipts to date were £8778.19.9 and the approximate outgoings £6121. It was decided to purchase £2000 Treasury Bill.

System of expenditure.

The system of expenditure as shown by the Order Book was approved.

Gifts to be general.

It was decided to recommend to the Colonial Governments that gifts should be made as general as possible in future.

Christmas Gift.

It was further decided to present to each Officer, non-commissioned officer and man of the British West Indies Regiment, a small souvenir at Christmas. The Secretary reported that the 69 cases of chocolate boxes had presumably reached Egypt the Sardinia having arrived at Port Said. (See preceding page).

Repatriation

The Hon. Secretary reported the steps taken to repatriate men discharged from the army with special reference to the cases of Pestano, Aird & Williams.

Cost of
outfits for
discharged men

It was agreed to defray the cost of outfits for
men to be repatriated to the extent of £2 or £3
per man where necessary. or extra at the discretion
of the Hon. Secretary. 2. 2. 17

Pay for men
discharged
from hospital

The Hon. Secretary referred to the difficulty experi-
enced by men on the boats in Egypt in drawing
pay when discharged from hospital.

Everard in Thurn

3. Sept. 1917

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
Sept: 3rd 1917

Present Sir Oswald in Thurm K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Edward Card K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Mr. R. Rutherford

Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall Hon. Sec:

Minutes.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

State of Fund

The Hon. Treasurer reported: Total Receipts to Aug 31 £10776
Total expenditure £6960. On Deposit £1750. Investment £2000 6 Months
Treasury Bills. Balance Cash at Bank £385-6-8

Christmas
Gifts.

The Secretary reported that the net strength of the British West Indies Regiment at Christmas would be 14800, and it was decided to present to each Officer, N.C.O. & man a cigarette case bearing on it the badge of the Regiment.

Warm comforts

The Secretary reported arrangements made with the Director General of Voluntary Organisations for the supply of warm comforts to each Battalion of the British West Indies Regiment in France & it was decided to contribute towards the Director-General's Fund the sum of one hundred guineas.

£105 voted to
D. G. of V. O.

Income tax
on pay.

It appearing that overseas officers paid from Dominion Funds were not liable to payment of income tax on their pay it was decided to endeavour to secure a similar concession for officers of the West Indian Contingent, and a letter to the

X
Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject
was approved. ()

Repatriation

Action taken with regard to the repatriation of
certain men who had been discharged was approved.

Pay for men
leaving hospital.

Further correspondence regarding the pay of
men discharged from hospital was reported.

Tweedmouth

17th Oct 1917

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
October 17th 1917.

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Colonel Sir Edward Bland K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
& Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall Hon. Sec.

- Minutes. The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.
- State of Fund. The Hon. Treasurer reported: Total receipts to Oct 16 £12,462 - Total expenditure £7,828. On deposit £2350. Invested £2000 (Treasury Bills.)
- Flag Day. The Hon. Secy reported that the Flag Day profit to date was £1838. 18. 3 and the despatch of letters of thanks to the Colonies participating was approved.
- Xmas Gifts. Arrangements made with regard to Christmas Gifts were approved.
- Overseas Officers' Clubs. Correspondence with the Hon. Secy of the Royal Overseas Officers' Clubs & General Sir Francis Lloyd regarding the admission of Officers from Overseas not in any definite Contingent was read, and the Chairman promised to see the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.
- Report & Accounts. The draft report and accounts to June 30 were considered & approved.

Repatriation.

The Hon. Secretary was requested to draft a letter regarding the repatriation of men on leave.

Half-yearly meeting.

It was decided to hold the half-yearly meeting of the Executive on November 15th at 5 P.M. at the Colonial Office.

Everard in Thurn

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee Nov: 21/17

Present: Sir Everard in Thurn
Sir Edward Gault
Sir Sydney Olivier
Mr. R. Rutherford
& " Algernon E. Cresswell Hon. Sec.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Treasurer reported the state of the Fund.

The purchase of a wooden leg for an ex-soldier in Grenada at the request of the Governor was approved.

His Excellency Brigadier-General Sir William Manning attended by invitation & gave a report on his visit to the British West Indies Regiment at the front.

Everard in Thurn

7-Dec. 1917

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held
Dec 7 1917.

Present Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Col. Sir Edward Paul Bart. K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Sydney Oliver K.C.M.G.
& Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall Hon. Secretary

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Xmas gifts The Hon. Secretary reported the arrangements made for the despatch of Christmas Gifts.

Report on B.I. Regt. Read letter from Lt. General Sir Philip Chetwode commending the 2^d British West Indies Regt.

Payment for B.I. Regt. Payment of $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of tickets for Private Bole, 5th B.I. Regt. was authorised on recommendation of his C.O.

Cadet — case of The case of Cadet — who had been in detention at Oxford was considered & the action taken in connection with it approved.

Repatriation A further discussion took place regarding the repatriation of men on leave & income tax of officers in the Contingent.

It was decided to recommend to the General Committee that £1000 of the Contingent Fund be earmarked for purchase of garments for & payment

of passages to the best interests of ex-soldiers wishing to
be repatriated.

Edward in Thurn
18.1.15

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee 18 JAN 1918

Present: Sir Everard in Thurn K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Bant K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
W. R. Rutherford
& .. Algerna E. Aspinall C.M.G.
Hon. Sec:

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

The Estaminet
Order.

Various letters were read & a discussion took place regarding an order prohibiting men of the British West Indies Regiment from entering Estaminets in certain parts of France which was causing much discontent.

It was felt that the extension of this Order to the Regiment could only be due to a misapprehension, & it appearing that he was going to France, Sir Sydney Olivier was requested, and consented, to investigate the matter.

Leave.

A discussion also took place regarding leave & it was decided to visit a party of 20 men from one of the Battalions in France to visit England & to Board them at the Union Jack Club as an experimental measure.

Mr. Preite
Hon Treasurer.

Mr. H. F. Preite was on the motion of Mr Rutherford appointed an additional Hon Treasurer. Correspondence with the Governor of the Windward Islands regarding the successful observance of Flag Day in Grenada was laid on the table, and

Flag Day in
Grenada

a letter addressed to the Governor was approved.
A vote of £5-5 to Lady S^t Helier's Comfort Fund for
Epsom Hospital was approved it being pointed out
that much kindness had been extended to an
Officer from the West Indies who had been in that
Institution.

Everard in Thron.

4. March 1918

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee
March 4th 1918

Present Sir Edward in Thurns K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Edward Basil Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Sydney Oliver K.C.M.G., C.B.
Mr. H. F. Prentice
Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall C.M.G.

Minutes. The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Estimate Order. The Secretary having reported the state of the Contingent Fund (Balance approximately £2900) a further discussion took place regarding the "Estimate Order". Sir Edward Basil who had laid the representations of the Committee on the subject before the War Office stated that that department had replied that the Order was issued by the G.O.C. Lines of Communication and related to Black Cookies. There never was any intention of applying it to the British West Indies Regiment, and the matter was now put right overseas. Much satisfaction was expressed at this announcement.

Kitchens Scholarships. A letter from the Secretary of State (17.1.18) enclosing a Memorandum regarding Kitchens Scholarships was laid on the table & the Secretary was instructed to bring to the notice of the Committee the names of any deserving applicants.

Health of 10th Bn. Read letter from the Chaplain 10th B.L.I.R.

regarding the health of the British West Indies
Regiment. It appeared that the sickness in the 10th
Battalion especially had been considerable in France
but that all Battalions except the 3rd 4th & 9th
had since been transferred to Italy with very
beneficial results.

Everard in Thurn. 12. 11. '18



Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
 Committee April 11 1918. Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E. ^{Presiding}
 Present Sir Edward Broad K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
 Mr. R. Guthrie
 " H. F. Burt
 " " Algernon & Aspinall C.M.G.

Minutes

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Flag Day
 Results.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that a cablegram had been received from the Governor of Jamaica to the effect that £1200 had been received on the occasion of the Flag Day in that island. The nett profit of the Flag Day to date was now £3440.5.11

Corresponding
 Committees.

The Secretary reported progress in the formation of corresponding Committees in the West Indies those already established being:

Bahamas: The Ladies Committee Mrs. E. Lobb Sec

B. Honduras: The B.H. Contingent Society
 Pres. Hon. C. R. Usher K.B.E.
 Sec. Mr. M. J. Stephens.

B. Guiana: W. James B. Cassels

Jamaica: Jamaica Contingent Com. for Fund

Trinidad: The Ladies West India Committee

Pres. Lady Chancellor

Vic-pres. Mr. Gordon Gordon

Sec. Mr. John Wilson

He added that Mr. G. L. C. Phillips was appointing a local Committee in Barbados. It was mentioned that the Estaminet Cade

Estaminet Cade

was still in force (see Minutes of March 4) & remained a subject for complaint. Sir Edward Bland stated that the attention of the War Office had been called to this & that the matter was receiving consideration.

Men from
Panama.

Correspondence with the Anglo-South American Central Depot regarding comforts for Panama men was laid on the table & action taken in respect of it was approved. It was decided to expend £120 collected by Lady Mallet on the purchase of chocolates for men from Panama in the British West Indies Regiment.

Recrd Office.

The Secretary reported that the Record Office of the Regiment had been transferred to 4, London Wall Buildings, & he stated that arrangements with regard to pay for men on leave &c were now working more smoothly.

Gifts.

The following gifts were approved:

Gramophone	to 10 Btlrs.
Band Instruments	to 6 "
Insecticide	to 8 "
Cricket Sets	to 6 - 11 Btlrs.
Sporting gear	to 8 Btlrs.
+ 99,000 Cigarettes to hospitals	

It was agreed that the best means of contributing to the comfort of the regiment was by sending such gifts, it being impossible to send presents to individuals.

Hospitals

It was decided to get into touch with the Chaplains attached to hospitals and to send

them comforts for inmates from the British West
Indies Regiment.

Cases of individ-
iduals.

The cases of various individuals calling for
attention were considered.

Meeting.

June 6th was fixed provisionally as the date
of the half-yearly general meeting.

Everard m^r Thurn.

Meeting of the General Purposes Committee - Tuesday
May 7th 18

Present Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
Colonel Sir Edward Grant Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.
Sir Sydney Clive K.C.M.G., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Mr. H. F. Druitt
& " Colgerman & Crippinall Hon. Secs

The minutes of the preceding meeting were
read & confirmed.

The draft report & accounts for the six
months ended December 31st 1917 were
approved & the agenda for the half
yearly meeting on June 6th settled.
Edward in Thurn.

25. VI. 18

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at the Colonial Office on June
25th 1918.

Present: Sir Edward im Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
Sir Sydney Clives K.C.M.G., C.B.
Mr R. Rutherford
" H. F. Preité
" Algernon L. Aspinal Hon: Sec:

Minutes.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read
and confirmed.

Xmas Gifts.

It was decided that the Christmas Gift for all
rankes of the British West Indies Regiment for 1918
should take the form of a pocket bullet & the Hon:
Secretary was requested to obtain estimates
accordingly.

Prisoners of
War.

The Hon: Sec: reported the arrangements made
for sending parcels to prisoners of war of whom
a list would be published in the West India
Committee Circular, and a contribution to the
Civil Service Rifles Prisoners Fund was authorised
pending communication with the Father of 2/Cpl
Hetherole.

A new enlist-
ment order.

A discussing took place regarding a new enlist-
ment order which the Committee considered extremely
regrettable

The case of
Sergt: Roberts.

The Hon: Sec: reported the case of Sergeant Roberts
who had been assisted with a passage to Trinidad
on production of documents from the Military Auth-
orities & had since been arrested as a deserter. It
was decided to offer evidence on Roberts' behalf if
necessary.

Separation
Allowances

Letters were read showing that complaints were

numerous as to non payment of reparation allowances & the H. Sec. was requested to take the matter up with the Command Paymaster.

A.O. 1 1918. A.O. 1 1918 it appearing that there was much discontent at the B.B.I. Co. not being entitled to the extra pay granted in January last to Imperial troops. The H. Sec. reported that there were 25 men at Bethnal Green & 66 at Liverpool suffering from loss of limbs through frost-bite & that a Branch Committee had been formed at Liverpool by Mrs Evelyn Parker & Mrs B. Speed to attend to their wants & to provide comforts for West Indians in hospital in that City.

Progress was reported with the formation of corresponding Committees in the West Indies.

Everard in Thurn. 19. VII. 18

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at Scotland House on July 19 1918

Present: Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr. H. F. Drexler

2 .. Algernon Crippinall C.M.G. Hon Sec

Minutes

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Pay of B.I. R.

It was agreed that the B.I. R. should receive the increase of pay authorised for other Imperial Regiments by A.O. 1 1918 & it was decided that representations on the subject should be made

Silver Badges

The Secretary was instructed to ascertain whether men discharged from the British West Indies Regiment were receiving silver badges.

Separation allowances.

A letter dated June 28th from the Regimental Paymaster, London District giving the addresses of the Home Paymaster, was read.

Repatriation

The Secretary outlined the arrangements hitherto made for repatriating West Indians discharged from the Imperial Army. The Committee repatriated the men & drew on the Army Council for the cost. A letter was read from the Director of Movements indicating a change in the arrangements (July 11/18) & the Secretary's reply requesting that the matter might be reconsidered (4703 July 12) was approved.

The new enlistment order.

The Secretary reported the action taken regarding the new enlistment order (against the enlistment of men not of European descent) and stated that it had now been cancelled, & the Chairman added that intimation to that effect had been communicated to the Colonies.

Leave

Read letter from Colonel de Brossier, regarding
leave the granting of which to parties of men he
considered desirable on political and disciplinary
grounds. Reference was made to the minute of
Jan 18th, & the Secretary was authorised to inform the
Colonel that the Committee would be glad to Board
& lodge a limited number of men for a short
period at the Union Jack Club.

Gifts

The Secretary reported the receipt of gifts of Hot
Sauce and Guava Jelly from the Committees in
Barbados & Jamaica respectively.

Action taken in respect of various applications
for relief & cases calling for special attention
was approved.

Loss of \$^s
Tortugues.

The Secretary reported that Sergeant Robinson 7191
(6th Bttn B.L.R.) & Corporal J.M. Speid 10673 (7th B.L.
1.R.) from the Committee were repatriating at the
request of the Army Council with Colonel Sergeant
E. Chandler (2 B.L.R.) from the Committee had
assisted had been chosen from the \$^s Tortugues
was impeded on her voyage to Jamaica on
June 26th.

Everard in Thron. 14. VIII. 18

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at the Colonial Office - Aug. 14 18

Present: Sir Everard in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.
Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Mr. R. Gutterford
& .. Algernon & Aspinall C.M.G. Hon. Sec.

- Minutes. The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read & confirmed.
- State of Fund. Estimate: Receipts to Aug 14 1918 £ 19,336
Expenditure 16,261
Cash in hand 63
On deposit 3000
- Fresh Appeal It was agreed that a further appeal for funds, could be necessary, and the Secretary was requested to prepare the necessary data & to draft a letter of appeal.
- Pay of B.I. R. The Chairman reported that the question of the extension of the privileges as to pay under A.O 1 of 1918 ~~for~~ the Colonial regiments in the Imperial Army was receiving favourable consideration by the Army Council.
- Silver Badges. Read letter from Major Gane, O in C. Records stating that all ranks of the British West Indies Regt. were eligible for Silver Badges upon discharge, subject to the usual conditions. (19.7.18)
- Petition from men at Record Office. Read petition from 9 M.C.O.s & men asking for financial assistance in view of their inability to subsist on their Army pay whilst living in London and further appealing for seats for theatres &c. It was agreed to give the men - and two in hospital - 2/6 a week each for the present &

Leave

to accede as far as possible to their second request. Correspondence regarding "leave" was reported & it was agreed that the Committee could not vary their offers already made in this connection.

Decorations

The Secretary brought to the notice of the meeting a statement made by Mr. Macpherson in the House of Commons on Aug. 1st regarding decorations for Dominion troops & was instructed to watch the matter.

DECORATION FOR DOMINION TROOPS

Mr. MACPHERSON, answering COLONEL JACKSON (York, E.R., Howdenshire, U.), said:—The issue of a decoration to Australian, New Zealand, and Newfoundland troops has been approved by his Majesty. It will be issued by the War Office, but the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, and Newfoundland will determine to whom it should be granted. This decoration will not be issued to Imperial troops, as it is designed to meet the desire of the Commonwealth, New Zealand, and Newfoundland Governments to mark the entry of their troops for the first time into a European war. If any other Dominion Government should desire a similar recognition for its troops, the question will no doubt be settled on similar lines.

It was pointed out that the British West Indies Regiment was an Imperial unit.

Committees

The Secretary read letters regarding the appointment of Committees in Grenada, St. Lucia & St. Vincent. It was decided to publish a list of all the corresponding Committees.

Personal Cases

Various personal cases for relief were discussed.
Everard vs. Thron

DISTURBANCE BY BLACK TROOPS.

ARMY NURSE'S DEATH.

An inquest was held yesterday on the body of Nurse McSHANE, aged 40, a native of Co. Armagh.

Mr. William Henry Taylor, officer in charge of Belmont-road Military Auxiliary Hospital, Liverpool, said it contained black and white patients, the former being British West Indians. The coloured men had been over-staying the time allowed them out of hospital. In consequence the military police guard was redoubled and the names and numbers of late comers were taken. Last Wednesday night a West Indian sergeant, named Demetrius, attempted to leave the hospital. He was stopped, but immediately drew a razor and slashed wildly with it. He was disarmed and placed in a cell. Ten late comers, all West Indians, then appeared. Two of the number refused to go to their wards, and, being joined by four or five other coloured men, also late comers, became very abusive. An attempt was made to take them to the cells, and 50 other West Indians joined in the affair, taking possession of the police lodge. Some 400 wounded British soldiers who were at a concert in the hospital hall came to the rescue of the military police. There was a struggle, in which cut-throats and sticks were freely used, and pots and pans were flying about. The police were reinforced and order was restored.

Unfortunately Nurse McShane, while helping another girl named White, a laundress, who had faintered, was caught in the rush of men. She was carried off her feet against a door that became unfastened, and was knocked down. She suffered from shock, but no severe injuries. Pneumonia developed, and she died four days later.

After hearing medical evidence the jury returned verdict of "Death through misadventure."

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Scotland House at 12-15 P.M. on September 27th 1918.

Present: Sir Edward im Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

Col: Sir Edward Lord Bart K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.

Mrs. R. Rutherford

Mrs. Algernon E. Caspall C.M.G. Hon. Sec.

Minutes

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

Accounts

The Secretary reported that the Auditors had completed the audit of the accounts for the six months ended June 30, but pending the preparation of a detailed statement showing the appropriation of specially earmarked funds which they had offered to undertake, consideration of them was deferred.

Appeal for funds.

It was also decided to hold back for the present the proposed appeal for further funds.

An émeute at Liverpool.

A letter from Mr. B. Speed dated _____ was read regarding a disturbance which occurred on September 18th at the Belmont Road Auxiliary Hospital, in which wounded West Indian soldiers were involved.

The Committee took a serious view of the affair, and decided to ask the Army Council through the Colonial Office that they might be represented at the enquiry which would presumably be held regarding it. Provided that a favourable reply was received it was agreed to ask Sir Henry Burrell to represent the Committee on this occasion.

Case of Sergeant
Roberts.

The Secretary mentioned again the case of Sergeant a Corporal Roberts (see minutes of June 25th). This man had been under arrest for upwards of six months without being brought to trial. He had been transferred from Chatham, where he had been under arrest as a deserter from the Middlesex Regt., to the depot of the British West Indies Regiment at Plymouth and was now, it was understood, to be tried only for disobedience to the orders of an H.C.O. in November 1917. The Committee approved of the steps taken for Roberts's defence.

Leave

Further correspondence regarding leave was laid on the table. The Secretary reported that men were arriving on leave from various battalions & were being boarded by the Committee at the Union Jack Club, and that amusements were being provided for them.

Passages to
the West Indies.

Various letters were read from the War Office & Officers Commanding asking that passages to the West Indies might be granted to certain men on compassionate grounds, & the Secretary was instructed to reply that such requests could only be granted in most exceptional cases; & it was further decided to warn the Officers Commanding that men should not be sent over on the chance of getting passages.

Thanks from
Record Office

A letter of thanks from the H.C.Os & men attached to the B. G. I. R. Record Office was laid on the table. (See minute of Aug: 14 18)

Everard Mathew

1. XI. 1918

BRITISH report:—

East of the Jordan the enemy is withdrawing towards Amman, on the Hedjaz Railway [24 miles east of the Jordan], pursued by Australian, New Zealand, West Indian, and Jewish troops, which have reached Es Salt [11 miles east of the Jordan], capturing guns and prisoners.

In the north our cavalry have occupied Haifa and Acre, after slight opposition.

The number of prisoners increases, and the total will exceed largely the figure of 25,000 already mentioned.

The Arab forces of King Hussein have occupied Maan [about 70 miles south of the Dead Sea], and are harassing the bodies of the enemy retreating northwards towards Amman along the Hedjaz Railway.

PALESTINE HEADQUARTERS, Thursday.

The pace of General Allenby's Army does not slacken, although a portion of the force has advanced well over 50 miles.

The efforts of the Department have been fully in keeping with all the other Staff work. The problem has been tackled with marvellous efficiency. All across the country one sees columns of lorries and light cars carrying rations and fodder. It is too hard to find a single grouse about food being short. In some places repaired enemy railways and captured rolling-stock are already carrying heavy supplies.

I have just returned from witnessing the mounted men's triumphant capture of Amman, east of the Jordan on the Hedjaz railway. I can speak of the splendid handling of the troops in country where Nature has raised enormous barriers against an attacking army.

The Anzac mounted division, assisted by some infantry, including a battalion of British West Indians, whose gallant bayonet charge on the Jordan's banks has won the admiration of Colonial veterans, knew the country, having made two dashing raids and inflicted damage on the Hedjaz railway. They drove the Turks and Germans out of Amman, though the presence there of Germans indicated what deep importance the enemy had set upon this section of the line.

—TURKISH OFFICIAL.—The British are advancing towards our new positions by the valley of the JORDAN and NABLUS.—Reuter.

Extract from
The Times Sep: 25 18

Extract from The
Daily Mail. Sep:
28th 1918 from
Daily Mail Sept 28th.

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at Scotland House, Embankment,
at 11.30 A.M. on Friday November 1st 1918.

Present Sir Gerard in Thum K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Col. Sir Edward Bant K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr. H. Rutherford

& " Algernon E. Caspiall C.M.G. Hon. Sec.

Minutes.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read
& confirmed.

Best Indians
in Palestine.

Much satisfaction was expressed at the report
that Best Indian troops had participated in a
brilliant bayonet charge on the banks of the
Jordan in Palestine on September 24th.

Appeal for
Funds.

A draft appeal for further subscriptions was
considered & approved. It was decided to ex-
pend a sum not exceeding £20 in advertising
the appeal.

Report, acc-
ounts and
half-yearly
meeting.

A draft report & the accounts as audited by
Messrs. Price Waterhouse & Co for the six months
ended June 30 last were considered and
approved for submission to the half yearly
meeting which it was agreed to hold, if
possible at the Mansion House, early in Dec-
ember.

Pay of the
B.I. R.

The refusal of the Government to extend the
provisions of Army Order 1 of 1918 in respect of
increased pay to the British Best Indies Regt.
was the subject of adverse comment. It ap-
pearing from correspondence submitted that
the matter was one for the decision of the
War Cabinet the Chairman promised to bring it
before the notice of Mr. Secretary Walter Long.

Liverpool
émente.

The Chairman reported that immediately after the preceding meeting he had communicated with the War Office & had ascertained that an enquiry into the disturbance in the Belmont Road Hospital had already been held. It appeared that the Shole affair had been exaggerated. There had been no "razor cutting" & no blame had been cast upon the best Indian men.

On the motion of Sir Sydney Olivier it was decided to submit for publication a note bringing out these facts with a view to correcting the misstatements which had appeared in the Press.

Leave

Correspondence regarding leave for W.C.O.s & men of the D.B.I.R. was laid on the table. The War Office informed the Committee on October 11th that approval had been given to the proposal that two parties per month from France & Italy should be allowed to proceed to England. Each party could comprise approximately 30 W.C.O.s & men in charge of W.C.O.s & possibly an Officer and could be accommodated at the Buckingham Palace Hotel.

The Secretary reported that the first party had now arrived & outlined the steps taken for their entertainment. An expenditure not exceeding £20 for each party was authorised.

Roberts' Case.

Roberts having pleaded guilty it was agreed that no further action regarding his case was called for.

The Secretary reported that he had brought to the notice of Major General Stanistreet C.B., C.M.G. the position of limbless men at Penney Camp Plymouth which was alleged to be quite

unsuitable for such cases, and that an enquiry into the matter was being made.

Pay of
coloured men
in the R.F.S.

A petition from coloured men in the Royal Engineers at Sandwich regarding their pay was referred to the Chairman for such action as might be desirable.

Badge for
men from
Foreign Countries
in the Army.

The Secretary reported that a special badge had been approved by the Army Council for men who had joined the Army from foreign countries & that it was assumed that men coming from Panama would be entitled to wear it. He was instructed to communicate with the Anglo-South American Depot on the subject that body having been nominated to distribute the badge to recruits from South America.

Various personal cases calling for relief or attention were mentioned.

Edward M. Turner
14. Jan. 1919

B V.L.A. BADGE FOR FIGHTERS.

Distinctive Device to be
Worn by Men from Panama
And Central America:

WHO ENLISTED HERE.

Representations Made to
War Office by W. I. Con-
tingent Committee.

THE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EDITOR—

Sir.—As most of the volunteers from Panama and Central America proceeded to Jamaica for enlistment, I think that your readers will be interested to learn that the West Indian Contingent Committee has been successful in obtaining permission for those men to wear the B.V.L.A. (British Volunteer Latin America) Badge, which was at first withheld on the grounds that they did not come direct to the United Kingdom to enlist.

I enclose therefore a summary of correspondence on the subject, for which I hope you will find space in your valued columns. I also send you herewith a specimen of the B.V.L.A. Badge.

I am, etc.,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Hon. Secretary.

15, Seething Lane,
London, E.C.,
23rd Jan., 1919.

THE CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence has passed between the West Indian Contingent Committee and the War Office on the subject of the B.V.L.A. (British Volunteer Latin America) Badge:

Letter from W. I. C. Committee to the War Office, 11th October, 1918.

Our attention has been called to the announcement in the "Times" to the effect that men in the Imperial Army from South and Central America and Mexico may wear a distinctive badge bearing the letters, B.V.L.A.

Would you kindly inform me if volunteers from the British West Indies in Imperial Regiments may be similarly permitted to wear a distinctive badge, showing the colony from which they come?

For some time past we understand that the men in the K. R. R., K.E.H., and certain units of the R.A.F. have been wearing such badges, and we should like to know whether this is officially sanctioned, so that we may be guided when we receive, as we frequently do, requests for such badges, which we are glad to supply in limited quantities.

WAR OFFICE'S REPLY.

Letter from War Office, dated 22nd October, 1918, ref. 121 Overseas, 6361 (Q.M.G. 7.)

With reference to your letter of the 11th instant, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that, after carefully considering your application, they regret they cannot sanction a special badge for men who came voluntarily from Colonies and Dependencies to join the Imperial Forces.

Such men, while patriotically obeying the call of duty, are not in the same position as volunteers from foreign countries whose material interests were in no way threatened, whereas men living within the confines of the Empire were in the same position as those men at home who voluntarily joined the army on and after the outbreak of the war.

COMMITTEE WRITES AGAIN.

Letter from W. I. C. Committee to the War Office, 2nd January, 1919.

With reference to your letter 121 Overseas/6361 (Q.M.G. 7), of the 22nd October, on the subject of the B.V.L.A. Badge for men who came over to serve from South and Central America, I can quite appreciate the reasons why this Badge is only issued to volunteers from foreign countries.

We are, however, informed that requests for the badge from volunteers from Panama, who joined the British West Indies Regiment are being refused on the grounds that the men did not come to England to enlist, but proceeded to Jamaica for that purpose.

I should point out that the men patriotically went of their own free will to Jamaica to enlist as it was not possible for them to come to England to do so, and in the circumstances I trust that the Army Council will consent to these men being provided with Badges, and I understand that our application would meet with support from the Anglo-South American Central Depot.

Trusting that this request will receive your favourable consideration.

CONSENT SECURED.

Letter from War Office, 121 Overseas 6628, (Q. M. G. 7.) 18th January, 1919.

With reference to your letter No. 6746 of the 2nd instant, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you they agree that officers and soldiers who came from South America (including Central America and Mexico) and joined the British West Indies Regiment shall be eligible for the B. V. L. A. Badge authorized by Army Council Instruction 1067 of 1918, for officers and soldiers who came to this country to join the army.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the General Officers Commanding-in-Chief concerned.

The Badge is diamond-shaped and composed of a dark slate-coloured tweed background, with the letters B.V.L.A. embroidered in yellow and in a yellow border.

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at Scotland House on January 14 1919.

Present: Sir Edward in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Col. Sir Edward Cardwell G.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.

Mrs. R. Gutteridge

" H. F. Prentice

& " Algernon L. Cripps K.C.M.G. Hon. Sec:

Minutes read. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported that following the half-yearly meeting of the Contingent Committee on December 18th last a letter had been addressed to Mr. Walter Long on December 30th urging him to secure the redress of the grievance under which the British West Indies Regiment were suffering owing to their not being permitted to enjoy the increase of pay granted to other Imperial units under Army Order 1 of 1918.

It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to Mr. Long's successor, Lord Milner & to urge that the British West Indies Regiment should also be entitled to receive consideration in the matter of gratuities for N.C.O.'s & men on discharge.

The Secretary reported that a letter had been sent to the War Office requesting that N.C.O.'s & men of the British West Indies Regiment who had left Central America to enlist in Jamaica might be permitted to wear the special B.V. L.A. badge (British Volunteer Latin America) and that the Army Council had consented to

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Telegrams:
"CARIB, LONDON."

Telephones:
6642 CENTRAL.
3743 AVENUE.

15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C. 3.

November, 1918.

WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT FUND.

DEAR SIR,

Since we made our first appeal for Funds in 1915 to enable the objects of the West Indian Contingent Committee to be carried out no special invitation to subscribe has been issued.

Experience has shown that the cost of maintaining the work of the Committee efficiently is at least £4,000 per annum. In view of the fact that the West Indian Contingent now numbers over 15,000 men, and that some hundreds of men who came over independently are now also receiving the care of the Committee, it cannot be regarded that this amount is excessive.

Some idea of the nature of the work which is now being undertaken may be gauged from the following extracts from the latest Report of the Committee :—

"The volume of work undertaken by the Committee showed a further marked expansion which is reflected by the increase in the postage and cable accounts, and by the numbers of men calling at the West India Committee Rooms for assistance or advice, which is always ungrudgingly given. This latter forms no small part of the activities of the Hon. Secretary and Staff. In the opinion of the Committee this personal attention to new arrivals, to men in hospital, to men in any form of trouble or to those who are merely lonely in a strange land is one of the most useful parts of its work.

"Some hundreds of parcels of comforts were sent to men at the front and in Hospital.

"The number of parcels sent to the Committee to be readdressed and forwarded to their destination showed a notable increase, and the work of checking the whereabouts of the addressees, repacking the parcels which, unfortunately, is still necessary in most instances, and clearing dutiable gifts under arrangement with the Commissioners of Customs was considerable. It was not unusual for from 2,000 to 3,000 letters and parcels to be dealt with in a single month.

"Board and Lodging was provided for 205 men on leave, discharged from hospital, or awaiting enlistment, at various clubs, including the Union Jack Club, the Y.M.C.A., the Peel House Club, and the Victoria League Club, with which special arrangements have been made.

"The Committee acceded to all requests for badges, musical instruments, games, insecticides, etc., from Commanding Officers of the British West Indies Regiment for their respective Battalions, which were also supplied with books and magazines by arrangement with the Camps' Library to whose funds a contribution was made.

"In the autumn the Committee was able to place an adequate supply of warm comforts at the disposal of each Battalion of the Regiment in France."

It may be added that since January 1st, 1918, no fewer than 1,400 parcels have been despatched from the Committee Rooms, and no less than 20,000 letters and newspapers readdressed and forwarded.

Meanwhile the calls on the Fund have become increasingly numerous. Besides the money needed for carrying on the work as at present, it is certain that very considerable further sums will be required when Peace is declared, in connection not only with the repatriation of men who came over independently to serve their country, but also with the provision of outfit and

other reasonable comforts for all classes of West Indian soldiers during their return from the War to their homes. It is to meet these needs that we now invite your support.

It would be regrettable if we were not able to do for West Indians what residents in our Dominions are doing for their sons.

The total sum collected to date amounts to upwards of £17,000. There remains in the hands of the Treasurers, or is due to the Treasurers, £2,000, or less than half a year's normal expenditure. It will be seen from these figures that the time has arrived when a further appeal must be made, and to this the Committee hopes that all firms and individuals interested in or connected with the West Indies will make a prompt and liberal response.

Contributions may be sent to—

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE,

15, SEETHING LANE,

LONDON, E.C. 3.,

and will be gratefully acknowledged.

Yours obediently

Everard in Thurn
Chairman.

J. M. Hodgeson
Deputy Chairman.

Algernon R. Caspall
Hon. Secretary.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.

Chairman.

SIR EVERARD IM THURN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Deputy-Chairman.

SIR FREDERIC HODGSON, K.C.M.G., V.D.

Hon. Treasurers.

COLONEL SIR EDWARD WARD, BART., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.,

SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, K.C.M.G., C.B.

ROBERT RUTHERFORD, Esq.

H. F. PREVITÉ, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Esq., C.M.G.

Ladies' Committee.

Patron.

HER HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE.

President.

THE COUNTESS OF STAMFORD.

Chairman.

LADY DAVSON.

Hon. Secretary.

MISS MARY MOSELEY, M.B.E.

¶ The West Indian Contingent Committee was inaugurated at the instance of the Right Honourable A. Bonar Law, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a Meeting held at the Colonial Office, on August 30th, 1915, to provide for the welfare and comfort of all ranks of the West Indian Contingent, or of those who might come over independently to serve in His Majesty's Forces.

THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT.

GALLANT BAYONET CHARGE.

"East of the Jordan the enemy is withdrawing towards Amman, on the Hedjaz Railway, pursued by Australian, New Zealand, West Indian and Jewish troops, which have reached Es Salt, capturing guns and prisoners."

GENERAL ALLENBY'S DESPATCH, Sept. 24th, 1913.

"British West Indians, whose gallant bayonet charge on the banks of the Jordan won the admiration of the Colonial veterans."

Mr. T. O. MASSEY in *The Times*, Sept. 28th.

¶ N.C.O.'s and Men of the British West Indies Regiment, which is referred to in the above extracts, are now arriving in England in parties on leave and are being entertained by the West Indian Contingent Committee.

The Committee is also caring for some hundreds of men from the British West Indies who came over independently to fight for King and Country. The expenses in connection with the repatriation of these men will be very heavy and to provide for this and for the maintenance of the work of the West Indian Contingent Committee, subscriptions are now invited.

(Address)

(Date)

$\frac{I}{WE}$ beg to enclose for £ as a
contribution towards the WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT FUND.

(Signed)

To
THE WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT COMMITTEE,
15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C. 3.

their doing so, (Gen Office Jan. 18. 19. 12/Overseas
6628) and that the General Officers Commanding-in-
-Chief were being informed accordingly.

Apprent for
Funds.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that a further amount
for funds had been issued and that as a result
approximately £1523 had been received. Mr.
Purcell then made a statement regarding the
financial position.

Repairs &
replacement of
artificial limbs.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the Gen Office
& ascertain what arrangements it was proposed to
make for the repair & replacement of artificial
limbs of men in the British West Indies Regiment
after their repatriation.

Forward in Thru. 21. Feb. 19

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Scotland House at 1230 P.M. on February 21st 1919.

Present Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr. R. Guthrie

" H. F. Preite

and " Algernon L. Crippin all C.M.G. Hon. Sec.

Minutes read.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read & confirmed.

Pay and gratuities.

The Chairman reported that he had attended a Departmental Conference on the subject of the pay of the British West Indies Regiment, & that the War Cabinet had now consented to the N.C.O.'s & men receiving the full privileges under Army Order 1 of 1918 & further, to their being granted the same gratuities on demobilisation as those paid to N.C.O.'s & men in the rest of the Imperial Army. Much satisfaction was expressed with this decision.

State of the Funds.

Mr. Preite reported the position of the Contingent Fund. The recent appeal had brought in £1772-0-4 and the credit balance of the various funds was approximately as follows:
Trinidad Merchants: £621-0-9; Barbados Citizens £228-2-9; Perez fund (for sick & wounded) £130-12-0.

Demobilisation of the B.I.R.

The Secretary outlined the arrangements made for the demobilisation of the British West Indies Regiment, and the purchase of games, cigarettes & for the homeward transports was approved.

Artificial limbs

Read a letter from the War Office (14.2.19) to

the effect that every man suffering from the loss of a limb or limbs could be provided with two artificial limbs and two peg-legs for every limb lost. This was regarded as satisfactory, it appearing that the legs were not standardised, and that spare parts could not therefore be sent to the West Indies.

Letters to the
Gen Office re
repatriation.

A discussion took place regarding the repatriation of men in Imperial units & letters were approved requesting that men placed in Group 45A (for deferred passages) under a misapprehension might be given the option of being transferred to group 45B (for the immediate passage); and further that such men should not be repatriated on third class passages.

Telegram to
O. Cs of B. G.
1. Regiment:

It was decided to despatch to Colonel A. L. Barchard Officer Commanding the 3rd British West Indies Regiment & to forward a similar message to Lieut-Colonel Good-Hill 1st British West Indies Regiment the following telegram: West Indian Contingent Committee desire convey to Officers Commanding and all ranks all Battalions British West Indies Regiment cordial good wishes for safe and prosperous voyage home and congratulate them upon splendid and gallant services during war under most trying conditions. Please communicate all Officers Commanding.

Edward M. Thomas

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES REGIMENT.

It being understood that the demobilisation of the British West Indies Regiment was likely to commence very shortly, the General Purposes Committee of the West Indian Contingent Committee on the occasion of their last meeting on February 21st decided to forward the following telegram to Colonel A. E. Barchard, the senior Officer Commanding, for communication to all Commanding Officers:—

“West Indian Contingent Committee desires convey to officers commanding and all ranks all Battalions British West Indies Regiment cordial good wishes for safe and prosperous voyage home and to congratulate them upon splendid and gallant services during war under most trying conditions. Please communicate all officers commanding.—Everard in Thurn (Chairman). Algernon Aspinall (Hon. Secretary).”

To the above message the following reply was received on February 25th:—

“Officers and all ranks British West Indies Regiment now stationed at Taranto thank the West Indian Contingent Committee for their kindly wishes and congratulations, and tender them most heartfelt thanks for the great services the Committee have rendered British West Indies Regiment.—A. E. Barchard.”

The West Indian Contingent Committee has also cabled a message of God-speed to the Battalions in Egypt and the detachment in Mesopotamia.

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Scotland House, on Thursday, April 3rd 1919.

Present: Sir Everard im Thurn K.B.E., K.C.M.G.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr R. Rutherford

• H. F. Preville

• • Algernon E. Caspiall C.M.G.

Hon. Sec:

Minutes
Confirmed.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

State of the
Funds.

Mr Preville reported that the November appeal had brought in £1955 & that the state of the various funds was as follows: General Fund £1065.6; Special Purposes £145.17.7; Trinidad Merchants £240.6.8; Barbados Citizens £136.12.8.

The Secretary reported that it was proposed that the first homebound transport with men of the British West Indies Regiment was expected to leave Haure on April 11th. The expenditure of £308 2.8 on gifts for distributions on the transports was approved.

Gifts from the
1st Battalion.

Letters were read from Lt Colonel C Wood-Hill D.S.O. of the 1st Battalion (December 1st) offering to the West India Committee a transcript of the War Diary of the Battalion prepared by Captain R. H. J. Fink and copied by C. S. M., G. C. Mills. It was decided to ask Sir Edward Wood if the Committee could accept this gift without infringing any Army Council Order. It was decided also to consult Sir Edward regarding a gift of £100 by the Battalion towards the Contingent Fund. (March 7)

Pay of b.l.s in R. I.

Many complaints having been received from

The Times

3.4.19.

REPATRIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—May I also express appreciation of your article on the above subject? The experience of men who came over independently from the West Indies and joined Imperial units has been even worse than that described by Mr. J. H. Farmer in his letter published in your issue of to-day. Many of these men, who include Government clerks, estates' managers, and overseers, whose services are urgently needed in the West Indies, have been kept waiting nearly four months for passages to their homes.

Prior to November 11 this committee used to repatriate such men—sometimes at 24 hours' notice—when they were discharged from the Army, and to recover from the War Office the amount which that Department would have paid for the passages. When demobilization commenced, however, the Army Council declined to sanction the continuance of this arrangement—which worked admirably in every respect—with the result that, as far as can be ascertained, not a single N.C.O. or man who came over independently has been repatriated by the War Office to the West Indies since Armistice Day. The War Office at first determined that these gallant fellows, who had come over 4,000 miles to serve their King and country, must be repatriated third-class; but as there is no such accommodation on the West Indian route this decision for some months effectually prevented any men being sent home. Now they have yielded to the extent of agreeing to the men going by "intermediate class," whatever that may be, and hope dawns once more. Meanwhile steamers have been leaving for the West Indies at fairly frequent intervals with civilian passengers to the exclusion of soldiers, many of whom have not seen their relatives or homes for over four years. Some steamers, too, have started with empty berths!

I can fully confirm what Mr. Farmer says about the Winchester Repatriation Records, which appear to be in a state of absolute chaos. Letters and telegrams addressed to them remain unanswered, and the unfortunate victims of their mismanagement have, in several cases brought to our notice, been asked to fill up their papers several times over. Men are not the only sufferers. The claims of dependents are also ignored. An application made by the wife of an officer, stranded with her infants, for a passage to Jamaica, which was put forward in November last, and has been renewed at intervals since then, has been practically ignored. A few weeks ago hopes were raised high by the dispatch of a West Indian to Liverpool, where, in accordance with instructions, he embarked on a vessel which was to take him to Trinidad; but they were dashed to the ground when he discovered that she was actually going to India and not to the West Indies at all. The man returned to London, where he still waits. It is small wonder that in the face of these delays the men should be getting exasperated, and that their relatives, friends, and employers in the West Indies should be losing patience.

Yours obediently,

ALGERNON ASPINALL, hon. secretary.
The West Indian Contingent Committee, 15,
Seething-lane, E.C.3, April 1.

Best Indians who had been discharged from the Royal Engineers (Inland Water Transport) that they had not received the proper rates of pay & that gratuities were being withheld from them on the grounds that they were coloured, it was decided to call the attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the matter.

Repatriation
delays.

A discussion took place regarding the delay in repatriating men who came over independently from the West Indies to enlist in Imperial units, & protests addressed to the War Office on the subject through the Colonial Office on February 19th & March 22nd were approved. A letter was read (from the War Office) dated March 27th stating that "every endeavour" would be "made to arrange 'intermediate' passages for the personnel in question provided that they were not proceeding by any large troopship." The Secretary reported that in accordance with a request from the War Office he had forwarded to that Department nominal rolls of the Officers and Men awaiting repatriation. A letter published in The Times on April 3rd under the heading "Repatriation" was approved.

Retention of
Overseas men
in the Army.

Cases having been brought before the Committee of men from Overseas having been retained in the Army of Occupation against their will - according to the statements made by these men - it was decided to investigate the complaints & to write if necessary to the Commanding Officers.

March of
Overseas troops

The Secretary was instructed to write to the War Office & to request that the British West Indies Regiment might be permitted to participate in the proposed march of Dominion troops through

Memorial
Service.

London.

A proposal to hold a West Indian memorial service in memory of those who had fallen a child of sickness during the war was favourably received, and the Secretary was instructed to invoke the assistance of the Bishop of Trinidad.

F. M. Hodgeson

25. 4. 19

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at Scotland House on April 25
1919.

Present: Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Mr. R. Rutherford
" H. F. Prentice
& " Algernon L. Osborn all Hon. Secs.

Minutes.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read & confirmed.

Accounts and
Report.

The draft report for the six months ended
December 31st last was considered, amended &
approved and the accounts as audited were
approved.

Half-yearly
meeting.

It was decided to hold the half-yearly
meeting on May 21st at 4.30 P.M. at the
Colonial Office if possible.

Funds.

Mr. Prentice reported that the present state of the
various funds was as follows; General Fund £656
-5-11; Special purposes £41.15.9; Trinidad
Merchants

; and Barbados Citizens
. It was understood that
further subscriptions could be forthcoming
from Barbados and British Guiana.

In view of a statement made by Sir Edward
Luard to the effect that such a gift could be
in order it was decided to accept with cordial
thanks a contribution of £100 from the 1st
Battalion of the British West Indies Regiment
together with a copy of the Battalion's war
diary - the latter to be entrusted to the
West India Committee for safe-keeping. The
Hon. Secretary was instructed to thank Sir
Edward for this valuable advice & to ascertain

Pay of best
Indians in
Royal Engineers

if this minute was correctly worded.
Correspondence regarding the pay of best Indians
serving in the Royal Engineers was laid on the
table and the letters addressed to the War
Office (April 5th) and Colonial Office (April 8th)
on this subject were approved.

Repatriation

The Hon. Secretary reported that the repatriation
of the British best Indian Regiment had begun
the following transports having sailed

Name	Port of Departure	Destination	Date
Granville Castle.	St. Raphael & Cherbourg	Jamaica & Barbados	April 14
Helenus	France & Havre	b.l. Islands, B.G.	" " 17

Little progress had, however, been made with
the repatriation of men who had come over
independently. He had visited the Repatriation
Camp at Brighthelmston. There improvement in the
arrangements generally had evidently been effected
& he had been informed by the War Office &
Ministry of Shipping that the Barbados & Trinidad
men could be shipped by every opportunity &
also via Halifax N.S.

Remobilisation
of B.L.I.R.
men in Eng-
land.

It appearing that several N.C.O.s & men of
the British best Indian Regiment were being dis-
charged in England, on the grounds that they
enlisted here though they desired to be re-
patriated to the best Indian it was decided to
ask the ~~Colonial~~ Secretary of State for the
Colonies if he could ask the Army Council to
sanction the repatriation of such men.

Proposed
memorial
service.

Mr. Bonyass kindly undertook to interview the
Vicar of St. Martin in the Fields as to the pos-
sibility of holding a best Indian Memorial service
in his Church, and correspondence with Bishops

Montgomery and the Bishops of Trinidad was
laid on the table.

F. M. Stoddyson

Vice Chairman

27th June 1915

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Scotland House at 12 noon on Thursday June 27th 1919

Present Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
in the Chair.

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr. R. Rutterford

& .. Algernon E. Aspinall C.M.G.

Hon. Sec:

Minutes.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

State of Fund.

The Hon. Treasurers reported the state of the Funds:

Balances General Fund	£ 1412 . 12 . 5 -
Trusts etc	761 . 0 . 7 -
Special purposes	35 . 8 . 2 -
Colonial Separate etc	13 . 0 <u>over</u>
Trinidad Merchants	290 . 2 . 6 "
Barbados Citizens	13 . 2 . 11 -
Perez Funds	66 . 17 . 1 -
Southern Fund	1431 . 13 . 1 -

Appeal closed.

The publication of the following letter was approved:

WEST INDIAN CONTINGENT FUND.

We have received the following letter:—

June 23rd, 1919.

SIR,—The repatriation of the British West Indies Regiment being nearly complete, and that of the men who came over independently far advanced, it should be possible in the near future to bring the work of the West Indian Contingent Committee to a close.

Thanks to the generous response to their last appeal, the Committee believe that they now have sufficient money in hand to meet all probable contingencies, and that the Fund may now be closed.

The Committee wish to thank you for the support which you have given to their several appeals for assistance, and, through you, to thank the public for the generous response which they have made to their appeals.

EVERARD IM THURN, Chairman,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Hon. Secretary.

Final accounts.

It was decided to publish a final statement

Recruit of B.W.I.R

THE CIRCULAR learns that the British West Indies Regiment, since its formation in 1915, has sustained 1,876 casualties. These include: Killed or died of wounds, 178; wounded, 697; and died of sickness, 1,001. Honours and awards won by the regiment number 77, including Distinguished Service Order 3, Military Cross 9, Military Cross and Bar 1, Distinguished Conduct Medal 8, Military Medal 37, Military Medal with Bar 1, Meritorious Service Medal 13, Royal Humane Society's Medal 4, and Medaille d'Honneur 1.

Repatriation.

of accounts - if possible to October 31 - in lieu of the usual half-yearly statement

The Hon. Secretary reported that repatriation was now proceeding rapidly the following transports having sailed with units of the British West Indies Regiment since last meeting:

Names	Ports of Dep.	Destination	Dates
Bermudian	Taranto	B	May 7
Cyrix	Havre	A	" 10
Trent	" "	B	" 15
Ortega	" "	A	" 30
Canopic	Taranto	B	" 30
Voronej	Havre	B	June 15

(A = Trinidad, Barbados & St. Lucia

B = Jamaica & British Honduras)

The repatriation of men who came over independently & with the Trinidad Merchants & Barbados Citizens' Committees were also well advanced.

Recd. B.W.I.R.

The following recd. of the British West Indies Regiment was laid on the table (see opposite page)

Pay of men in I.W.T., R.E.

Recd. letter from the War Office (30/Pgrs/3627 F6, June 5) stating that it had been decided & that instructions were being issued accordingly, that War Gratuity at half the rates laid down in Army Order 17 of 1919 might be issued to the men of the "Coloured Labour Section I.W.T. Royal Engineers, but that it was not possible to make any alteration to the rate of pay received by these men.

It was agreed that this was not altogether satisfactory, and it was decided to write a further letter to the Colonial Office on the subject.

Cemetery at
Taranto.

Read letter dated 16.5.19 from Lt Colonel C. Wood-Hill regarding the neglected state of the cemetery at Taranto in which upwards of 300 men of the British West Indies had been buried, & letter from General Cary Barnard, Base Commandant, asking for a contribution towards the cost of putting the burial ground in order. It was decided to contribute £50 from the Contingent Fund towards that object, and to forward a draft for that sum to General Barnard.

Colonel Wood-Hill's charges.

Letters were also read from Lt Colonel Wood Hill adversely criticising the treatment of the British West Indies Regiment at Taranto & the attitude of the Base Commandant towards them (May 17 & 22). It was agreed that the charges were serious & that they called for investigation; but it was felt that they were beyond the immediate scope of the Committee's work.

Contribution from 11th Btn.

Read letter from Lt Colonel Oyle 11th Btn. B.L.I. thanking the Committee for their services & enclosing a contribution of £75 from the Battalion towards the Contingent Fund. Correspondence with the Colonial Office regarding a complaint made by Captain J. Mc. McDowall was read & the Committee's letter of May 7th approved.

Ernest W. Thomas

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at Scotland House, Westminster
on September 26th 1919

Present Sir Frederic Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
in the Chair

Sir Sydney Olivier K.C.M.G., C.B.

Mr. R. Hutchings

.. H. F. Parry

& .. Algernon Aspinall C.M.G. Hon. Secy

Minutes
deferred.

The minute-books having been sent to the
Chairman in Scotland, the minutes of the
preceding meeting could not be read.

Committee's
work to be
ended on
Sep. 30.

The consent of the Secretary of State for the
Colonies having been obtained, it was decided
to close the work of the West Indian Contingent
Committee on September 30th & to invite the
West India Committee to deal with any out-
standing matters after that date.

Band
instruments

It was decided to offer certain Band Instru-
ments returned to the Committee by Colonel
Burchard of the 1st Battalion B. I. R.
to some institution in Jamaica.

Clemency for
prisoners.

Arising out of correspondence with 2^d Lieut
de la Motte regarding the imprisonment
of 302 Pte Blenman the Secretary was autho-
rised to write to the Secretary of the War
Office expressing the hope that His Majesty
the King might be advised to exercise
his prerogative of pardon in respect of

men of the British West Indies Regiment
imprisoned for military offences.

Lieut Grant.

The action of the Hon Secretary in relieving
Lieut Frank Grant R.N.V.R. & in securing his
removal to Greenwich Hospital was approved.

Taranto
cemetery.

Correspondence regarding the condition of
the Cemetery at Taranto was read & it was
agreed that the action of the Committee in
this connection had been beneficial.

Repatriation

Progress in repatriation was reported.

Everard in Thron

9. XII. 1919

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes
Committee held at the Colonial Office, Downing
Street at 12.30 P.M. on Tuesday, December 9th 1919

Present: Sir Gerard in Thurn K.C.M.G., K.B.E.
Sir Frederick Hodgson K.C.M.G., V.D.
Sir Sydney Clive K.C.M.G., C.B.
Mr. G. Rutherford attended with
the accounts
& Mr. Algernon Aspinall C.M.G.

Mr G. P. Osmond, Chief Clerk, attended to
present the accounts.

Minutes
read.

Minutes of meetings held on June 27th &
September 26th were read & confirmed.

Reports
accounts

Resolved that the Report submitted by
the Chairman and the accounts to Sep-
tember 30 as audited by Messrs Price
Waterhouse & Co be and are hereby
approved & that they be submitted for
approval to a meeting of the West
Indian Contingent Committee on January
22 1920.

Be It Resolved

That the activities of the West Indian Contingent Committee
be deemed to have been terminated on September 30th, 1919
and that the functions of the Committee be transferred to
the West India Committee (Incorporated) as from that date
it being understood that that Committee is willing to
accept the responsibility

That subject to the approval of the Charity Commissioners
the unexpended balances standing to the credit of the
West Indian Contingent Committee and all outstanding
liabilities on September 30th be transferred to the
West India Committee such balances to be held in trust
for expenditure on the objects for which the Contingent
Committee was formed, it being a condition of the
transfer that any balance remaining after the completion
of the work be remitted to the various West Indian
Governments for expenditure for the benefit of
repatriated soldiers in need of assistance.

It being reported that Miss Moseley M.B.E., Hon: Secretary of the Ladies Committee would be relinquishing her position and leaving for the West Indies at an early date, it was decided to offer her a small souvenir in recognition of her valuable services.

The Hon: Secretary reported steps which he had taken to relieve a party of wives and men of the West India Regiment awaiting passages to Jamaica. He also stated that there were now 85 West Indians at the Repatriation Camp at Winchester awaiting passages to Jamaica and that he had been in communication with the Colonial Office on the subject and that it was proposed to send these men out in the "Balantia" early in January

Algernon E. Aspinall

