

initiative in bringing about many reforms much needed in the Royal Navy.

In November, 1918, Admiral Wemyss was selected by the Supreme War Council to be the naval representative authorised to meet the German armistice delegates, and to be associated, therefore, with Marshal Foch, on this historic occasion. This great honour was in no small way due to Sir Rosslyn's diplomatic ability, coupled with the great knowledge he had of the situation then before the world. His labours on the Allied Naval Council will be remembered by all who were associated with him. Since the beginning of this year, the Peace Conference has kept Sir Rosslyn busy in London and in Paris, and it is generally agreed that the settlement of the naval terms reflected the greatest credit upon him and his staff.

THE "CONWAY" CLUB.

GENERAL MEETING AND ANNUAL DINNER.

Suspended during the war, the Annual Gathering of Old Boys was held on October 30th, this being the first re-union since 1913, and the proceedings consisted of the General Meeting of the Club for the election of Officers, followed by a Dinner at the Exchange Hotel, Liverpool.

The following Officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months :—

President—Sir Hamilton J. Goad-Adams, K.C.M.G.

Vice-President—Comdr. H. L. Wilson, R.N.R.

Hon. Sec. and Hon. Treas.—Captain H. W. Broadbent, R.N.R.

Hon. Auditors—Comdr. C. K. Browne, R.N.R., Lieut.-Comdr. L. H. Peel, R.N.R.

Committee—Captain D. Agnew, R.N., Professor J. O. Arnold, D.Met., F.R.S., Comdr. C. d'H. Bell, R.N.R., Comdr. T. A. L. de Berry, R.I.M., P. D. Bray, Esq., O.B.E. (Durban, S.A.), Captain H. W. Broadbent, R.D., R.N.R., Comdr. L. A. Brooke Smith, R.D., R.N.R., Comdr. C. K. Browne, R.D., R.N.R., C. Burland, Esq., M.D., Admiral Sir S. H. Carden, K.C.M.G., J. K. Chase, V.D. (Calcutta), Lieut.-Comdr. M. G. Douglas, R.D., R.N.R.,

S. E. Dutton, Esq., Major Sir H. J. Goad-Adams, G.C.M.G., C.B., Comdr. J. W. Gracey, R.N.R., H. G. Green, Esq., Comdr. E. J. Headlam, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.I.M., Captain J. O. Hope, Captain C. L. A. Lecoustre, Comdr. W. Lightoller, R.D., R.N.R., Captain W. Long, O.B.E., H. T. Mayne, Esq., Captain E. R. McKinstry, C.B.E., R.D., R.N.R., Captain P. D. Murray, Comdr. J. Park, R.D., R.N.R., Lieut.-Comdr. L. R. Peel, R.N.R., Captain A. G. Robertson (India), Lieut.-Comdr. E. C. Roden, R.N.R., Lieut. F. J. Roden, R.N.R., Comdr. S. S. Richardson, O.B.E., R.D., R.N.R., Comdr. W. F. Seale, R.D., R.N.R., Comdr. A. W. Smyth, R.D., R.N.R., Lieut.-Comdr. W. P. Thompson, R.N.R., C. Wenner, Esq., Valentine Willis, Esq. (Sydney, N.S.W.), Comdr. H. L. Wilson, R.N.R.

The Company at the Dinner consisted of fifty-five Old Boys, ranging from 1860 to 1919, and thirty guests. The newly-elected Vice-President, Captain H. L. Wilson, who is probably the senior surviving Old "Conway," presided. The dinner was exceedingly good and well served, and Mr. Smart's Ladies' Orchestra provided bright and attractive music, which was pleasant to listen to, and did not interfere with the continuous flow of conversation and yarn swapping concerning old days. The speeches were few and interesting, and proof of a happy evening was the rapidity with which the fingers rushed round the clock.

The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of a small dinner Committee, consisting of Captain Broadbent, Comdr. S. S. Richardson, and Lieut.-Comdr. M. G. Douglas, who can be complimented on the success of their efforts.

A far greater number would have attended if they had been in England, and there were numerous apologies and regrets for absence.

After "The King," Captain Broadbent proposed the toast of "The Old Boys who fought in the War." In doing so he said that the toast he was entrusted with was one which required a far more eloquent tongue than his to do even bare justice to, but that he could claim some justification for speaking, in that he knew personally a very large proportion of those 1,400 or more who had so worthily upheld the name and traditions of the Ship in which they were trained, and established for her a reputation second to no school in the Empire. He went on to say, "In asking you

to honour the toast, I may be asking many here to drink their own health, but Old 'Conways' were well represented in the Army and in the Air Force, as well as on the sea, so one Service may well toast the other, and we can all unite in paying a tribute to the many gallant members of our band who so heroically gave their lives in their country's service, so many of them, too, boys in their teens, as well as men in the prime of life.

"Our Old 'Conway's' were scattered over a greater range in the Fighting Forces than the Old Boys of any other School, as they were to be found anywhere and everywhere where there was fighting.

"By the nature of things, the Merchant Service as represented by vessels in enemy ports and enemy waters was the first branch of the Fighting Forces to get into contact with the enemy, though in the initial stages it was more suffering than fighting that fell to the Merchant Service lot. The fighting came afterwards, but the suffering was unadulterated pain, while the fighting was, well fighting—and right well was it done.

"Hard on the heels of the Merchant Service came the Royal Navy, of which we have with us this evening, as one of our number, so distinguished an Officer as Admiral Sir Sackville Carden, and very soon after the commencement of hostilities, the inter-dependence on one another of the two great branches of the Sea Service of the Empire was very clearly illustrated. We still have, and probably always shall have, the two extremes, the lordly battleship and the humble tramp, who find it somewhat difficult to understand though they have learnt to mutually respect one another, but working down and up from the two extremes, there came a point where the two branches were almost absolutely fused, the 10th Cruiser Squadron for instance, the mystery ships, small craft of all descriptions, and the C.M.B.'s, in which the 'Conway' was particularly strongly represented amongst the R.N.R. Subs and Snotties.

"Many R.N.R. Old 'Conway's' were navigators of submarines, and these craft account for quite a number of names on our long Roll of Honour.

"A number of our Old Boys left the sea for the Army when the call came for soldiers, and still more soldiers, while others answered the

call from the shore, and by the time conscription came into force, there were no Old 'Conway's' left to conscript. They were all out in the turmoil.

"The Merchant Service as a training ground for Army officers came out with flying colours, and I need only mention one case of many similar ones. Peter Bent, who had just finished his apprenticeship in sail in 1914, joined the 9th Leicesters as a subaltern when the Battalion was raised, was in command of it at the Somme, and left his mother to collect his V.C. after Vimy Ridge. Another I might mention is Geoffrey Nicholson, who failing to satisfy the examiners for Dartmouth, entered the Army and was a Brigadier-General at the age of twenty-five. Then there is Commander R. H. W. Hughes, R.N.R., who got the D.S.O. in the Cameroons, and as Brigadier-General, R.E., has won much renown in Mesopotamia, and now attaches to his name a string of letters as long as a homeward bound pennant.

"Of the youngest of the Fighting Forces, the Royal Air Force, too much cannot be said in praise and admiration, and here also Old 'Conway's' were first in the field in the R.N.A.S. Some have made the great sacrifice, some have won distinction, all have been heroes, and their experiences truly terrible. One of our members, here to-night, I won't mention his name as he is a modest man, was shot down like a cock pheasant, and landed in a heap in No Man's Land, where he lay for dead for hours and to this day cannot tell how he got away.

"Gentlemen, with a full heart I give you 'the Old Boys who fought in the war,' associated with the names of Admiral Sir Sackville Carden and Lieutenant Green."

Replying for the Sea Services Admiral Sir Sackville Carden, who, on rising, received a great ovation, said:—"Mr. Chairman and Brother Officers, it is a great pleasure for me to be here as a very old 'Conway' boy, as it is now fifty years since I first joined that Ship. The old Ship is now under the very able administration of Captain Broadbent, by whose kind invitation I hope to visit the Ship to-morrow. I feel it a special honour to be called upon to reply for the Sea Service, and our thoughts naturally turn to the large number of our brother officers who are unable to attend to-night owing to their being at their place of duty at sea. There are many others

Sir S. H. Carden, K.C.M.G. (1869-70), C. V. Daly (1870-72), C. K. Browne (1872-74), J. C. Carr (1873-76), F. W. Parker (1873-75), C. E. d'H. Bell (1875-77), E. R. McKinstry, C.B.E. (1876-78), G. Stapleton (1878-80), W. Long, O.B.E. (1879-81), W. B. Seattle (1879-81), H. W. Broadbent (1880-81), M. D. Wilson (1882-84), S. E. Dutton (1882-84), C. L. A. Lecoustre (1882-84), D. Agnew (1883-85), W. Lightoller (1883-84), G. T. Pickford (1884-87), E. J. Headlam, D.S.O. (1887-89), P. D. Bray, O.B.E. (1887-89), J. Park (1890-92), S. S. Richardson, O.B.E. (1891-93), E. C. Roden (1890-92), F. J. Roden (1893-94), M. G. Douglas (1893-95), C. Headman (1893-95), L. A. Brooke Smith (1893-95), T. Dunn (1894-96), C. E. Wenner (1894-95), H. G. Green (1894-95), A. G. Irvine (1894-96), C. P. Shiel (1896-98), R. J. Dunkerley (1897-99), J. W. Gracey (1899-01), C. E. Lee (1899-1901), A. G. Foote (1903-05), W. H. Brown (1904-06), A. E. Scoby (1905-07), K. Mackenzie, M.C. (1905-08), A. Beers (1905-07), G. H. L. Jones, D.S.C. (1906-08), W. B. Hailstone (1908-11), K. Renfree (1908-11), J. C. McGregor, D.S.C. (1908-10), N. Richardson, M.M. (1907-11), H. Wadsworth (1908-10), N. H. Chamberlain (1909-11), D. S. Kite (1910-12), M. A. Ryan (1911-13), H. Lawrence (1913-15), T. C. Prosser (1915-17), A. T. Hamer (1915-16), L. H. Spicer (1916-19).

With the exception of one small gap, 1902, the years are linked up continuously from 1867 to 1919.

who will never come back, those who have made the great sacrifice, and the thoughts of all of us are with them. I was very interested to read Ludendorff's account of how, after finding that they were unable to shift our armies, they put faith in their submarine campaign. It was the Mercantile Marine which broke the back of this attempt (applause). After these years of war a bond of union exists between the Merchant Service and the Royal Navy founded in mutual respect and in the great work they have been doing side by side. I will not detain you any longer, but I must say that I have a slight complaint against Captain Broadbent for saying what I wanted to say. Allow me to thank you all for your most hearty toast."

Lieutenant H. G. Green, late of the King's Liverpool Regiment, replied for the Land Forces in a bright and humorous speech. He began with his experiences as a private in the trenches, and recounted how one of his duties was to salute several times a day a gentleman who, in pre-war times, was the commissionaire in charge of the door of the office in Liverpool in which he himself was one of the bosses. Later when he had blossomed out into a full blown subaltern, he found the teaching and example of Mr. Tozer of great value, and he was able, in the matter of discipline, to give points to a brigadier and lieutenant-colonel he came in constant contact with. Digressing, he told a much amused audience how he met S. E. Dutton's double, and could not get away from him, and finished a capital speech with a brief but touching reference to those who had "gone west."

In proposing the toast of "Our Guests," Commodore Headlam said that though he was a member of the Club Committee, this was the first dinner he had attended, but that was not his fault, and it was an extraordinary pleasure to be present now. He thought from their appearance, that most of the guests present were married men, and probably many had sons. His advice to them was if any of their boys wanted to go to sea, they should encourage them in every way possible, as it was a grand profession, and the sea was the natural heritage of our race, but before going to sea, send them to the "Conway" to be trained, and while there they would be made into men, and have a jolly good time.

Captain F. W. Mace, in responding, said he was not a "Conway" boy, and often

regretted it, as old "Conway's" had three great assets—a good education, thorough grounding in habits of discipline, and last but not least, that feeling of *esprit de corps* and bond of fellowship, which was so noticeable whenever and wherever two or more old "Conway's" met together.

Colonel Frank Walker, in proposing the health of the Chairman, alluded to the little games he and Captain Wilson used to be up to together sixty or more years ago, and told several good stories, one concerning the puzzlement of an unfortunate private at a remount depot as to how Noah managed to get two army mules into the Ark.

Captain Wilson, in replying, dwelt on the great difference between the "Conway" of his day and the present day.

In conclusion, the health of Captain and Mrs. Broadbent was cordially proposed and drunk, one member going to the length of expressing a hope that they would hold their present positions for another fifty years—a proposal Captain Broadbent, however, did not seem to be particularly enthusiastic about.

Several Old Boys were put up on board for the night, and Admiral Carden came off the next day to see the ship. Both he and Commodore Headlam spoke to the boys, and gave them some good advice and cordial greetings.

To round off the dinner, Captain and Mrs. Broadbent entertained the following Old Boys to lunch the following day:—Admiral Sir Sackville Carden, K.C.M.G., Comdr. H. L. Wilson, R.N.R., Comdr. Gregory Stapleton, R.N., Commodore E. J. Headlam, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.N., P. D. Bray, O.B.E., Comdr. L. A. Brooke Smith, R.D., R.N.R., Comdr. S. S. Richardson, O.B.E., R.D., R.N.R., Lieut.-Comdr. M. G. Douglas, R.D., R.N.R.

There was also present Mr. R. Broadbent, well known in Port Said.

Writing after his return home, Admiral Carden said, "It was a great pleasure to pay a visit to the Ship after all these years, and I should like to tell you how much I was impressed with all I saw and heard.

"The general air of smartness and efficiency, the good bearing, physique, and snap of the Cadets was most apparent."

The following attended the Dinner:—H. L. Wilson (1860-62), P. D. Murray (1867-69),