

Oxford Street was crowded with thousands of people to watch the Troops headed by bands march from their respective headquarters to the recreation ground. This was headed by the Kaffrarian Rifles Band under Bandmaster Eames and the Units represented were, South African Permanent Force - The Kaffrarian Rifles - Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve - South African Service Corps - South African Police. Other Units to take part were Selborne College Cadets accompanied by their band. All these bodies were strongly represented. When the procession proceeded up Oxford Street and reached Argyle Street it was joined by a very strong contingent of ex-Service men. In addition there were detachments of St. Johns Ambulance, Railway and City, Boy Scouts and Girls Guides. At the conclusion of the thanksgiving service the review of the troops by Brigadier Sir Charles Crewe took place. They presented a very fine and smart appearance.

Colonel J.J. Klerk O.C. Eastern Province Command was in command of the Parade and Major C.G. Nettelton acted as Staff Officer to Sir Charles Crewe. Other Officers on Parade were Maj. van Wijk S.A. permanent Force - Colonel V.G. Lewis the Kaffrarian Rifles - Lt. Com. J. Chambers R.N.V.R. - Major Harvey Selborne Cadets - Mr. M.S. Oglivie, Ex-Service Men.

After the inspection Sir Charles delivered an address (As I have mentioned owing to faulty loudspeakers no one heard the speech. The whole speech was however reproduced in the E.L. Daily Dispatch of 7/5/1935) This is briefly what was said "If we put our duty first no matter what each one can do, we can render service and if we do our duty and help our neighbours we shall be following the great example of King George and Queen Mary. If the Jubilee makes us think of service to others it will fulfill and we shall fulfill the wishes of their most Gracious Majesties." After the address Sir Charles proceeded to the saluting base and the troops marched past in column of route. This was a most impressive spectacle and was watched with great interest by the large crowd which lauded each unit as it passed

When Sir Charles died in 1936 he was given a Military Funeral attended by the Regiment in full strength. Probably one of the biggest funerals ever held in East London. It was known for some days before he died that the old man was sinking and this gave time for a gun carriage to be sent down from Pretoria. A team of the Kaffrarian Rifles rehearsed with the gun carriage in the Smuts Sports Ground.

The funeral procession, after a service in St. Johns Church at the bottom of Oxford Street, proceeded up Oxford Street, the gun carriage on which was the coffin was drawn by a team of the Regiment. On the coffin were the Brigadier's swords and decorations. This was followed by the saddled horse with riding boot in reverse in the stirrups. Then the mourners followed by the Regiment - a most impressive and fine turn out.

Oxford Street was lined with thousands of people, whether in respect or curiosity I don't know - the former we truly hope. It was a long march down Cemetery Road - now named Commercial Road - and so to the grave where the usual salute was fired and the last Post and Reveille sounded. It was certainly a most impressive funeral.

After the funeral the Regiment marched back to the Drill Hall where liquid refreshments were issued to the men and I think they thoroughly deserved them. They certainly needed a quencher after that long march to the cemetery with reversed arms.

I believe that the General left £1000 to cover the funeral expenses & the liquid refreshments too, I think.

The officers assembled in the Ante-room and to brighten things up a bit decided to toast the King and all the Georges but as there had only been six it was later decided by those who wished to stay on to drink to the Louises as there had been sixteen of them.