

1 GEORGE V., A. 1911

absurdly inadequate in numbers to deal successfully with the numerous problems which require its attention.

I understand that the standard of military preparation to be aimed at by the Dominion is the provision of 100,000 men immediately available in the first line of defence, with the necessary machinery for raising and organizing another 100,000 in the second line, and I assume that no departure from this policy is contemplated. This standard cannot be attained until definite arrangements for mobilization are completed and the immediate supply of the necessary war outfit assured. At present it would not be possible to put the militia in the field in a fit condition to undertake active operations, until after the lapse of a considerable period.

The value of mobilization preparedness is very great, and its cost, compared to other military expenses is but small, provided a definite and continuous policy is pursued.

(C)—PEACE TRAINING.

Before expressing an opinion as to the standard of peace training reached by the Canadian forces and their methods of instruction, it will be convenient if I briefly recount the opportunities which I have had of forming a judgment on these matters.

My field training inspections were as follows:—May 21, the 8th and 9th Regiments of the 20th Infantry Brigade carried out a scheme of manoeuvre in the Lévis Camp at Quebec.

May 25, the Royal Canadian Dragoons carried out a reconnaissance scheme in the neighbourhood of Toronto.

May 26, the 13th and 91st Regiments at Hamilton performed some minor drill operations in their drill hall.

June 1 and June 2, the 14th Regiment of Infantry and the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery practised manoeuvre schemes at Kingston.

June 4, the Governor General's Foot Guards and the 43rd Regiment carried out an 'attack and defence' scheme in the neighbourhood of Ottawa.

June 8 to June 10, the Royal Canadian Regiment carried out field operations in connection with the fortress defence at Halifax, and the Royal Canadian Garrison Artillery worked their guns against a night attack by destroyers represented by government transport boats.

June 15 and 16, the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Brigade, and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Infantry Brigades were seen both at field training and manoeuvre at Niagara-on-the-lake.

June 18, the 6th, 7th and 8th Infantry Brigades carried out field operations under Col. S. Hughes at Kingston.

June 20, at Petawawa Camp, the 3rd Cavalry Brigade was seen at field training, and the 2nd and 8th Brigades, Canadian Field Artillery, at manoeuvre and field firing.

Judging from all I have been able to see, I should consider the standard of training efficiency which has been reached by the troops of the Permanent Force to be satisfactory.

In my opinion their peace establishment is not large enough to enable them to properly carry out the work of supervising the training and instruction of the militia, and, at the same time, to permit of their attaining themselves to that perfection of field efficiency which it is very desirable should be possessed by the small regular force maintained by the Dominion.

For this reason, as well as those which I have brought forward in the course of this report, I think, when funds are available, the Royal Canadian Dragoons should be increased by one squadron, and a battery should be added to the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.

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