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O TEMPORA O MORES!

With reference to the duty of saluting as enunciated in the "Western Scot" last week a word might be said with reference to an incident that took place locally a short time since. A Lieutenant-Colonel, accompanied by a party of his officers, all in uniform, on Government Street in the early evening, happened past a group of men of another previously formed unit. The men stood under a street light and while fully recognizing the officer made no attempt to salute. One of the juniors stopped and asked the men if they had recognized a Lieutenant-Colonel and if so if it were not the habit of their corps to salute the King's commission. The soldiers replied that they had perfectly recognized the officer who had just passed, but that their instructions were that they were not to salute after dark. Otter's Guide says: "Warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men should salute all officers so long as they can fairly distinguish them, whether of their own corps or any other." While "Otter's Guide" may not be in a strict sense official, it is founded on the K. R. and O., and in this instance would seem to follow common sense and common civility.

HYDRA-HEADED MONSTER

There being no church parade last Sunday morning, a volunteer service was held in the Y.M.C.A. building, at which the chaplain, Rev. Dr. Campbell, in the course of his address, said "Strong drink is a hydra-headed monster, which blights men and ruins women. There is no evil so far-reaching as that of strong drink. Few men have not in themselves, in their families, or in their business suffered from it. It turns the home that should be a heaven of happiness into a hell of misery, and it is, therefore, a crime against humanity and against God himself to countenance it. Ninety per cent. of those in jail trace their transgression directly or indirectly to this evil, which poisons the springs of our national life. It weakens every power and faculty of man which it touches. Athletes who must have agility, strength and staying power scrupulously avoid it. Lord Roberts and Earl Kitchener agree with General Sir Henry Havelock and Lord Wolsley that soldiers can do more work, endure more hardship, and that soldiers health without strong drink than with it." Dr. Campbell quoted General Sir Sam. Hughes as saying: "I have no use for the man, either in uniform or out of uniform, who is a drinker. I am determined to maintain the 'dry' canteen in our military camps, because I am assured that the man who does not drink, as far as endurance is concerned, is much better than the man who indulges in intoxicants. It is because I am interested in the welfare of our men that I remove the evil from them as far as possible." The chaplain also referred to the curtailment during the war of the hours for the sale of liquor in Britain, France and Russia. Even old London, he said, the most conservative city in Europe, shortened the hours and abolished the time-honored custom of treating.



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This may seem an interference with the personal liberty which God has given man—to undertake to prevent his getting strong drink—but it is only an abridgement of a liberty to use something which is unwholesome and may result in an injury to himself and to others. This seems to me quite justifiable and to which no reasonable man should object.

He complimented the battalions at the camp on their excellent character and the good name they had gained in Victoria for diligence, intelligence, sobriety and manliness worthy of soldiers of the King, and he was sure they would maintain it to the end, although

"Single men in barracks don't grow into plaster saints."