

WHEN EVERY FELLOW
COUNTS,
Or,
"Gae' a freen' a helpin' hand,"
Etc.

(Robbie Burns).

Those of the Drivers who were not in Quarantine, when the first attack of measles depleted their strength, wish to thank particularly the two Buglers,—Forsy and Furnival,—for their assistance during that period; also the members of the Band, who helped at the Exercise Ride and in the Stables on Saturday morning last.

We are not sarcastic, though it would almost appear to be so, seeing that only two Buglers out of about 1800 Sappers, complied with the appeal which appeared in Daily Orders. There are many Sappers whom we know do not profess to know anything about horses; there are others who know a little, and there is the hot air artist who thinks he knows everything and knows nothing. We wouldn't have them, even on the manure pile. The former we didn't expect, but the other we did, and were disappointed. However, we learn from experience, and we are looking forward to that promised Route March,—12 miles out and 12 longer miles back, and no wagons!

Extracts from instructions of Officer in charge will, we hope, read as follows:—

"Owing to the scarcity of Drivers, Mounted Transport will no be used.

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The Field Kitchen will not accompany Troops; consequently Bread and Cheese Sandwiches will be carried.

The Water Cart will not accompany Troops. Water bottles to be filled, (no water available en route).

Ambulance will not accompany Troops. All sick can die or crawl home.

Tool Carts will not accompany Troops. All Trenching Tools to be carried, also Fence Posts, Barbed Wire, and other necessary materials."

Etc., etc.

It may not interest many, but it may appeal to a few, that there are upwards of 2800 Troops in St. Johns at present, and there have been 3000. How did they get their rations taken to the Barracks, their clothes, their coal several times, their mail every morning? Did it ever dawn upon the Sapper, who could have helped and didn't, that the Mounted Section might have done it? What happened when it was down below zero, and you fellows stayed in doors, because it was too cold to be outside? Did your rations fail to turn up? Did you miss your mail? (provided the train came in). Did the Sapper ever think (if Sappers ever do), what expense the Government would have been put to, had there been no Mounted Section at the Depot, and civilian teams and drivers had been employed? Five teams a day wouldn't have done the work, but put it at that, for 2½ years, at \$5.00 each and teamsters at \$4.00: this little bit of arithmetic only amounts to \$41,030.

Unfortunately we are in the toils of the M.O., with 80 per cent of the Drivers in Quarantine again for 14 days, including all the farriers except Staff Sergt. Barr. But this time we are not going to appeal for assistance, as some 20 new Drivers have reported, and look like good material. Seventeen partially trained and untrained Drivers, working from 5 a.m. till 4.30 p.m., managed last time, and can do it again.

Moreover, during the first period of quarantine, more transport was required than during any similar interval during the past year. Also we may state, the Ambulance was called very often, and we would ask all Sappers when going sick,—that is really sick,—to do so at a reasonable hour. We hate turning horses out at 1 a.m. for a jag case, and usually the Drivers report "not a single case from overwork".

Times have been when the Depot was up against it for men,—that is, real men. What about General Wilson's last inspection? Who did the Asst. Adj. and the R.S.M. get

for the Bombproof Guard? 1 Sergt. and 4 Drivers from the Mounted Section! Who policed Halifax at the time of the disaster and who police that city yet? 40 Drivers from the E. T. D. Mtd. Sect.! Who were the men a certain General spoke of as being the smartest men in Halifax, eh? Those same 40 Drivers! Who runs that big trumpet in the Band? Hughie, transferred to the Band for that very purpose! Probably the largest funeral ever held in Montreal, was headed by 7 Blacks and a Tool Cart, with Drivers all from the Mounted Section!

We have not always been Saints in the Mounted Section, though our record in the orderly room shows no Drivers for orderly room for upwards of four months; "We are proud of it," as they say in the Pay Office, though, to quote the Commanding Officer, the Drivers at one time supplied 95 per cent of the crime. And he knows!

There's lots more we could say, but wont.

Next time you are in trouble, ring up one long and one short. That's us! Ask for a team, and we'll be right there!

These six Sappers who reported for Cinder Fatigue on Monday and when they found the fatigue cancelled, said—"Where are the brushes, we'll fix the stables", and they did, these are the boys we like to meet, perhaps we will be able to help them sometime. That little time isn't forgotten.

"CARRY ON".

OBEY THAT IMPULSE!

Get a copy of "Knots and Lashings" to send to the folks back home. You may be sure they will be glad to get it. The postage is one cent.

JOTTINGS FROM THE MOUNTED SECTION.

(Driver Arnold)

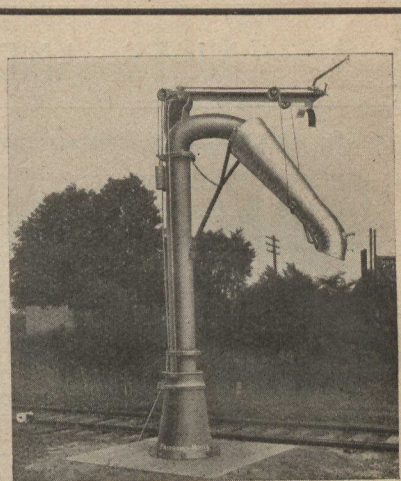
We would like to have been at the Boxing Tournament last Friday, 19th, and think it will stir up our interest in the noble art, if we are allowed to witness the finals.

The old timers are glad to see the Stables filling up again. It means road rides, lunch and nose bags for noon, and fewer picquets.

We were all pleased to see Sergeant Doyland back from Halifax. Welcome home, Bob!

The measles are still with us, and room 92 is getting its little vacation.

Oh you, measles, you're as welcome as a shunk at a lawn party.



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