

often enough. The regiment arrived, in a somewhat similar condition to that of a well-bred, under-exercised, stud of horses, at Bustard Camp, on Salisbury Plain, and the men settled down to the fairly serious business of training, and the vitally serious business of keeping men of other battalions out of their canteen. This was a very arduous task indeed, and exciting, and the knowledge of close warfare gained during this period proved of material aid to the troops in the trench fighting of the spring.

A month after the arrival of the regiment the King reviewed the Canadians, and on the 14th of November the P.P.C.L.I. moved to Winchester to join the 80th Brigade, 27th British Division.

The weather during the ensuing month served to prepare the men for the Flanders conditions. The rain came down steadily until all the ground about the soaked canvas camp on Morne Hill became a swamp. But the town was close, money was not too scarce, and distractions were possible. The regiment was brigaded with the 2nd King's Shropshire Light Infantry, the 3rd and 4th King's Royal Rifle Corps, and the 4th Battalion Rifle Brigade, under Brigadier-General Fortescue; and with the rest of the brigade it was ordered to keep in readiness to move out at four and a half hours' notice.

The short Lee-Enfield rifle was substituted for the Ross, and as much practice as possible given the men in those days of limited ammunition. Early in the morning of December 20th the troops moved out on the fourteen mile march to Southampton.

FRANCE.

That was a very weary tramp, and as the boots of the battalion generally were either brand new or in the last stages of dissolution, there were many sore feet on board the transport. But the cheerfully destructive