

provision for the instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers at schools of military instruction. The militia, being a Dominion organization in contradistinction to one by provinces, and being under control from a central authority, renders uniformity in the methods followed a necessity, and schools of military instruction for the different arms a consequence of that necessity. Those formed in connection with corps under permanent pay not only produce satisfactory results, but they have established the fact that they are well suited to the circumstances of the country. The officers and men of those corps being under daily pay and army discipline, supply models for drill, and examples of discipline, which could not be provided as usefully or economically by any other method. The length of the courses of instruction for those who are attached to undergo them, varies according to circumstances. An ordinary short course lasts three months, but those who qualify themselves beforehand may be attached for special courses lasting not less than seven days. The provision has been accepted by the Active Force in the same spirit that actuated the Department in establishing the schools, with a result that the instructional years have been fully employed, and the classes well filled. For those who require higher qualification than the schools can supply, provision has been made for them to attend at the Royal Military College, where one class is instructed each year in the higher branches during three months. It will thus be seen that the Royal Military College forms the Dominion centre for the higher instruction of such officers, as well as for the education of cadets, of whom twenty-four may be admitted each year for a course lasting four years. In the former cases the officers are taken by selection, in the latter the cadets obtain entrance through the medium of competitive examinations held simultaneously on a specified day each year in each of the military districts. The details relating to the operations of the College during the current year will be found in the Commandant's report. The several schools of military instruction being located in different provinces form instructional centres for the Active Force in specified districts, according to the arm of the service, and within specified distances in order to economize the expenses for transport of those who are attached for instruction. The details relating to this portion of the service will be found in the reports of the several commandants of schools. The officers who attend those schools obtain, when qualified, a certificate entitling them to hold substantive rank in the Active Force. Without these certificates only provisional rank can be obtained. Those who hold such rank are junior in their respective ranks to those who hold certificates and cannot be promoted until they attend a school and obtain a certificate of qualification. This seems a hard order to follow, but it is a necessity of the organization and a proper one to secure needful efficiency.

In addition to the four commissions in the army offered by the Imperial Government annually to the graduates of the Royal Military College, that Government also offers six commissions in the army, annually, to officers of the Active Militia of Canada, who are between 19 and 22 years of age, who have been such officers during 15 months, who have attended two annual trainings, and who can pass the required educational and technical examinations. The papers for those examinations are prepared at the War Office, London, England, and the decisions upon the qualifications of candidates are also made there. None of these commissions have yet been awarded, but there are some candidates awaiting the examinations which will take place in the spring and fall of 1891. Similar examinations will take place each year thereafter, provided there are candidates for such commissions.

I consider that benefit will accrue to the service if the additions mentioned in the following recommendations can be provided for:—

1. Permanent sites for camps of instruction, having rifle ranges, in each district, and the training of the whole force annually.
2. The appointment of graduates of the Royal Military College as officers, when available, as vacancies in the permanent corps occur.
3. Additional facilities for the qualification of officers and non-commissioned officers who are serving in the militia for the time being.
4. A pension for long service in the permanent corps and on the staff.
5. A new barrack building at Winnipeg and the completion of the barrack building at Victoria, British Columbia.
6. Provision for an easy, periodical and inexpensive enrolment of the Reserve Militia, to take the place of the existing system.
7. For the enumeration of horses in the several municipalities.
8. Additional buildings at the Royal Military College. The existing ones are well adapted for the service, but they are too limited in extent to provide adequately for the work the College was created to carry out. Additional ones are needed to provide for its growing requirements. The most important are a new barrack, a hospital, a gymnasium, quarters for professors, and a workshop for cadets. These will also provide for 50 additional cadets without increasing the cost for maintenance. The present staff is ample for the purposes of instruction of a larger number of cadets and the \$200 paid by each per annum will cover all extra expenses for board and lodging for the additional number.
9. The erection of a new barrack building for the permanent corps stationed at Kingston. The existing barracks are old and require constant repair.

The Deputy Adjutants General.

Lt.-Col. H. Smith, D. A. G. of Military District No. 1, confines his report to a tabulated statement of the strength of the force drilled and undrilled in his district.

Lt.-Col. W. D. Otter, D.A.G., presents an unusually interesting review of the condition of affairs in District No. 2. Noting the application for the formation of an additional corps of infantry and of a Naval Brigade in Toronto, he states his belief that either or both could be efficiently maintained. He includes a statement of the results of the efficiency competition for rural corps held at the Niagara camp, and adds that from the experience of this year he is satisfied that such a competition will prove of decided benefit to the infantry. In order to further encourage corps to enter into the competition with additional spirit, Colonel Sir Casimir S. Gzowski, K.C.M.G., has, with his usual generosity, offered a handsome challenge shield for award to the most efficient battalion in the district, leaving to a committee of commanding officers the settlement of the terms of the competition and disposal annually of the prize. Col. Otter again points out the necessity of bringing city corps together for instruction which cannot be given at their ordinary evening parades. In connection with the Thanksgiving Day parade the Queen's Own Rifles are given special praise for the efficient system of scouting and communication, and for the admirable line of shelter trenches hastily thrown up. The issue of a couple of Morris tubes to each battalion in the district is recommended.

Lt.-Col. W. Van Straubenzee, D.A.G., makes a detailed report on the condition of the corps in Districts Nos. 3 and 4. The camping ground on Barricfield Common having been found altogether too small, he says:—"I have already reported that the Ordnance lands on the heights of Barricfield, at present under lease to private individuals, could be converted, at but little cost, into a splendid permanent