

The Officer's Training Corps

The Training Corps was formed immediately after the outbreak of war, and existed for one year as the McGill University College contingent. In 1915 the Corps was organized as the University of British Columbia contingent of the C.O.T.C. with the late Dr. Wesbrook as Captain and Provisional Major, Mr. E. E. Jordan as Captain, and Mr. H. T. Logan as Lieutenant. The duties of Adjutant were undertaken by an officer of the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders, Captain L. A. Elliott, who, in spite of his ever-increasing duties in connection with his own and other regiments, never lost interest in the Corps from this time until it was finally disbanded.

In the autumn of 1915 military training for students was made obligatory, but the Corps was without funds. The distinctive Corps uniform was never issued; the Cadets had to content themselves with the khaki of the infantry regiments. As the badge of the Corps—the University Arms—was received late and never in sufficient quantities, our men were for long periods military mysteries as regards their uniforms. But in 1915 they were not to be discouraged by such trifles.

No sooner had they reached the minimum age for overseas service than they presented themselves in the orderly room to ask for their discharge. In March, 1915, a group of 30 members of the C.O.T.C., named by themselves "McGill (B. C.) Overseas Section," left to join the First McGill University Company in Montreal, and in July they were drafted to the P.P.C.L.I. at the Front. This was the first of many similar contingents sent from the C.O.T.C. during the war.

Captain R. A. M. D. Ramsay, of the 54th Battalion, replaced Captain Elliot as Adjutant, and in spite of his wounds rendered great service to the University. Dr. H. Ashton was now attached to the Corps with the rank of lieutenant, in succession to Capt. Jordan. The failing health of Dr. Wesbrook, the commanding officer, prevented his turning out for parades, and early in the academic year (1918) the Corps suffered a great loss by his death.

Our own students were by now returning from the Front incapacitated by wounds, but ready and willing to help their