



PART OF THE 3.73 PER CENT. OF ALBERTA'S POPULATION WHO HAVE ENLISTED.
Artillery drilling in the rain at Sarcee Camp, the old Indian stamping ground on the Elbow River, four miles out of Calgary.

ALBERTA TOPS THE LIST

Impressions of Sarcee Camp, Calgary, Where Thousands of Men Are Training For the Front

By CHARLES STOKES

Photographs by Oliver, Calgary

ALTHOUGH comparisons are both invidious and odious, the people of Alberta are pointing with justifiable pride to the fact that the Province has contributed a greater percentage of men to the fighting forces of the Empire than any other Province of the Dominion. The figures recently published by the authorities at Ottawa show that the number of Albertans who have enlisted in the Canadian forces alone amounts to 14,200, a percentage of the population of 3.73; while if to these be added the men who have enlisted in other forces, chiefly in England, the number is nearer 20,000, or practically 5 per cent.

Every part of Alberta, from the international boundary in the south to the furthestmost recesses of the Peace River in the north, has furnished its quota. Edmonton and Calgary, as the largest recruiting centres, have naturally collected the largest numbers, each having raised in the city and in the surrounding district about eight thousand men.

When the decision was reached not to concentrate all the westerners at one point, probably in Manitoba, but to establish separate camps, Calgary was selected as the concentration point for the Military District Number 13. The men of the first contingent were of course mobilized direct, many of them continuing their everyday employment in the intervals of drilling until the very last moment before they left for Valcartier. The Second Contingent, which as far as Calgary was concerned, comprised the 31st Battalion, experienced some delay before leaving, and were housed in the various buildings accessory to the Calgary Exhibition, where they were joined later by the then newly-raised 50th Battalion. In May the new concentration camp was ready for oc-

cupation, and the 50th moved out to it, the 31st in the meantime having left for Shorncliffe.

The camp is known as the Sarcee Camp, and lies on the north bank of the Elbow River about four miles from Calgary, immediately adjoining the reserve of the Sarcee Indians. The regiments at present under canvas there are the 50th, the 56th, the 63rd and the 66th, the 12th and 13th Mounted Rifles, and several companies of the R. A. M. C. and the A. S. C. A battery (the 20th) of the Royal Canadian Artillery has recently been drafted to Shorncliffe. Altogether there are at present between six and seven thousand men at the Sarcee Camp.

At the same time, a new battalion, the 82nd, is now being recruited under the command of Lieut.-Col. W. A. Lowry, who, himself a Calgary man, was invalided home after St. Julien. This battalion will be quartered in the camp eventually. The recruiting for the 82nd has been notable for the number of very prominent Calgary men who have received commissions, amongst whom is ex-Mayor Mitchell.

The 13th Military District is under the charge of Col. E. A. Cruickshank, D. O. C. The camp is beautifully situated, and a backwater of the Elbow River has been utilized to form a swimming-pool for the men. Adjoining the camp a young city, "Sarcee Camp," has sprung up overnight, the completeness of which is testified by the fact that in addition to a number of stores it contains a branch of a bank and two picture houses. The Y. M. C. A. has established a big depot here too. About seventy-five per cent. of the men at Sarcee Camp registered their names as volunteers for harvest help, and most of them are now assisting in reaping Canada's greatest harvest.



Loyal Blood Indian Cadets in training at Sarcee Camp. Thirty years ago this year the Indians on the prairies were fighting Canadian soldiers under Gen. Middleton. German papers please copy.



Baking from No. 1 Hard at the Sarcee Camp, near Calgary.



Line-up of men anxious to join the popular 56th Regiment of Calgary.