

nishing a number of instructors, and I am glad to record that the establishment of the last named institution is now beginning to make itself felt in the increasing number of young officers who have obtained certificates therefrom and who are now able to perform the duties required of them with increased intelligence.

A daily class for sword exercise was again conducted by Captain Sears, I. S. C., with profit to the large number who attended, and the same officer gave a course of four lectures on "duties," which were listened to with evident interest by all the officers in camp. What with the regular drills, duties, classes and lectures the time of the officers was pretty fully occupied, though none complained of overwork.

The regulations prescribed for target practice were carried out as fully as possible under the circumstances, but until more time is available for this important part of a soldier's education I fear little can be done towards teaching him "position" and "aiming" drill previous to going to the targets. The actual firing was zealously carried out by Captain Adam, 13th Batt., Musketry Inspector, a well-known enthusiast in rifle shooting, whose report, may, I think, be considered fairly satisfactory. The reduction in the ranges fired has proved most decidedly a move in the right direction. I would call attention to Captain Adam's suggestion, that an addition should be made to the marker's pay, which has my cordial recommendation. The extra cost will be more than compensated for by the increased efficiency of the men and time saved.

The report of the Principal Medical Officer, Surgeon Major Riddall, 36th Battalion, shows that the health of the men was good, although owing to the extreme heat several slight cases of sunstroke occurred. One serious casualty, I regret to say, happened on the first day, in the accidental drowning of Private Young, No. 6 Company, 77th Battalion; the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry were duly forwarded at the time. Surgeon-Major Riddall, makes in his report a similar complaint to that of his predecessors, viz., the want of proper appliances and scarcity of medicines.

I must again call attention to the state of the arms and accoutrements now in use by corps in the district. With few exceptions they are worn out and unserviceable. So far as the care that is bestowed upon them is concerned I have little to complain of, for, with few exceptions, these articles are well looked after. Among the best kept armories are those of the following corps: "A" and "B" troops, Governor-General's Body Guard; Nos. 4 and 5 troops, 2nd Cavalry; Queen's Own Rifles; Royal Grenadiers; Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 8 companies, 12th Battalion; 13th battalion; Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 companies, 19th battalion; Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 6 companies, 20th battalion; Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7; companies, 31st battalion; Nos. 1, 2 and 3 companies, 34th battalion; Nos. 1, 3 and 5 companies, 35th battalion; No. 7 company, 36th battalion; Nos. 1, 3 and 5 companies, 37th battalion; 38th battalion; Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 companies, 39th battalion; Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 6 companies, 44th battalion; Nos. 1, 2 and 3 companies, 77th battalion; No. 5 company, 95th battalion.

Rifle shooting is decidedly on the increase in the district; the great drawback, however, is the cost of ammunition. If the issue could be increased so as to enable the several corps to have a few rounds per man for private practice in addition to the annual training, more interest would be taken in the use of the rifle, but I would only recommend this issue to such companies as were known to be enthusiastic. An issue also to those corps who are unfortunate enough as not to be selected for the annual drill would also prove beneficial and tend to keep them "in touch."

The duties of Brigade-Major have been most assiduously performed by Lieut.-Col. Gray since he took up the appointment in December last, and every assistance freely accorded me by him. To Lieut.-Col. Alger, district paymaster and superintendent of stores, I am under many obligations for his ready attention to the wants of the district.

Nos. 3 and 4 Districts—Lt.-Col. Van Straubenzee, D.A.G.

The strength of these combined districts is 5,529 of which 3,257 is in No. 3 and 2,272 in No. 4. The strength authorized for drill was 3,092.

Of camp Gananoque, which opened on the 19th June, the D. A. G. says: The 4th Cavalry, Prescott Troop, two gun detachments from A Battery, Ottawa, Durham, Kingston and Gananoque Field Batteries, 16th, 42nd, 47th, 49th, and 59th Battalions of Infantry, assembled in Camp Gananoque, on the 19th June, with the following Officers on the Staff of the Camp, viz:—The Deputy Adjutant General in Command; Lt.-Colonel Lewis, Brigade Major; Lt.-Colonel Graveley, 40th Battalion, Instructor of Musketry; Major Jackson, 41st Battalion, Camp Quartermaster; Captain Heron, G. G. F. Guards, Supply Officer; Captain Galoway, 14th Battalion, Orderly Officer; Surgeon Tracey, 49th Battalion, Principal Medical Officer.

Lieut.-Colonel Cotton placed two non-commissioned officers at my disposal and Lieut.-Colonel Otter one. These non-commissioned officers rendered good service.

The Instructor of Musketry and Sergeant were most assiduous in their arduous duties and being favored with fine weather throughout were enabled to put nearly every man in camp through a course of firing, together with a short course of aiming and position drill.

The members of the camp staff, with one exception, performed their onerous duties entirely to my satisfaction, and I think it but right to bring to the notice of the General commanding the services rendered by my Supply Officer, Captain Heron, who was indefatigable at his work and gave great satisfaction to all.

All corps turned out full strength with the exception of the 47th Battalion, which paraded only nine full companies, No. 4, Captain Kelly's Company, failing to put in an appearance. This officer reported high wages the cause of his not being able to get his men to turn out.

No. 5 District—Lt.-Col. C. F. Houghton, D.A.G.

The strength of the district is 4,817, and drill was performed by 3,143, about half at head quarters and half at camp. Following are extracts from the D.A.G.'s report on Camp Sherbrooke, which opened on the 26th of June:

The Brigade Staff was as follows: The Deputy Adjutant General in Command; Lt.-Col. Mattice, Brigade Major; Major Radiger, 3rd V. R.C., musketry inspector; Surgeon Major Mayrand, 11th Battalion P. M.O.; Captain Wright, 58th Battalion, Camp Quartermaster; Lieut. Dixon, R.M.C., Supply Officer; Lieut. Guy, 3rd V.R.C., Orderly Officer.

The musketry instructor, Major Radiger, also gave me the greatest satisfaction by the zealous and untiring manner in which he performed his arduous duties, but in consequence of the distance of the rifle range from the camp, I found it an absolute impossibility for him to keep up with his work without an assistant, and I therefore gave him the services of Lieut. Guy, my orderly officer, who proved himself a most valuable acquisition, performing the share of the work allotted to him with ability and zeal. Nearly every available non-commissioned officer and man performed his rifle practice with a result which, under the circumstances stated by him, I consider a very fair one. I beg to draw particular attention to paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 of the report above referred to, and in reference to No. 8 I may state that had the matter been reported to me in time, I would have had it at once corrected, and I shall now take particular care that no such cause of complaint shall be permitted to exist in future camps.

I have to thank the department for the valuable services rendered me by three non-commissioned officer instructors, and one bugler of B Company Royal School of Infantry lent to me during the encampment. All four did capital service and were most zealous and indefatigable in the performance of their duties. I must, however make particular mention of Sergt.-Major Phillips whose services were absolutely invaluable to me throughout the whole encampment, not only performing the regular duties of his office as Brigade Sergt.-Major (which were most arduous) to my entire satisfaction, but also giving lectures and special instructions in drill, interior economy, etc., to the officers and non-commissioned officers in the evenings after working hours, which, though voluntary, were generally very well attended.

I have, with much regret to report the accidental death from drowning of Private McKay of No. 5 Company (Marsden) 58th Battalion, which took place on the 28th June, in St. Francis River, just below the camp. Being aware of the dangerous and treacherous nature of this river (a private of the 53rd Battalion having been drowned in almost the same spot a couple of days before our arrival in camp) I had taken the precaution to issue an order prohibiting the men from bathing in it, except in small parties accompanied by a non-commissioned officer in possession of a special pass for that purpose, signed by the officers commanding corps for the men of their respective regiments. This young man appears to have disregarded this regulation, and unfortunately met his death by so doing, as reported in the Sherbrooke papers of the 6th July. A subscription given by the officers, for the games of the men on the 2nd July, was by the unanimous consent of all ranks diverted from that purpose, and forwarded by Lt.-Col. Pope (about \$130.00) to the father of the deceased, who it appeared, was in straightened circumstances, and mainly dependent upon his son for support.

I have to thank my Brigade Major, Lt.-Colonel Mattice, for his valuable assistance, and his untiring zeal in the performance of his arduous duties, throughout the entire period of the encampment, is worthy of all praise.

There are seventeen rifle associations in this military district, seven of which, I am sorry to say, have been unable to perform any target practice this year in consequence of the unfinished state of the new range at Cole St. Luc. None of these—with the exception of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association, which held its annual meeting at Ottawa this year, at a heavy expense, have, for the same reason, been able to hold their annual matches this year, nor have any of the city corps of Montreal been able to perform their annual class firing. This state of affairs is most dis-