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NEWS OF THE SERVICE.

Our readers are respectfully requested to contribute promptly to this department all items of Military News affecting their own corps, districts or friends, coming under their notice. Unless we are assisted in this way we cannot make this department as complete as we would desire. Remember that all the doings of every corps are of general interest throughout the entire militia force. You can mail a large package of manuscript, in an unsealed envelope, for one cent. At any rate, forward copies of your local papers with all references to your corps and your comrades. Address,

EDITOR CANADIAN MILITARY GAZETTE,
Montreal.

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS.

OTTAWA, October 13.—To say that military matters at headquarters are quiet would be a very mild way of describing the state of affairs. There is absolutely nothing going on, and the policeman who keeps watch at the door of the Western Block seldom has his reveries disturbed by the arrival of visitors bent on business. Indeed, since the session closed several of the headquarters staff, and others of the civil branch of the department, have been absent from the capital on private or official business. The Minister has also been out of the city.

The names of three well-known officials have frequently been brought up in recent discussions. The rumored retirement of Col. Lake, quartermaster-general, has proved a fruitful topic, but it is not generally credited here. At any rate, I was unable to gain confirmation of the rumor from any authoritative source. Col. Lake would be much missed by other members of the staff. So far as the term may be applied in speaking of a senior officer, it may be said that he has been a general favorite ever since he came to Canada. His devotion to his duties has been well known, and it is admitted on all sides that he has done infinitely more for the militia's reorganization than has ever appeared on the surface.

Another story, or rather, the revival of an old story, that has been going the rounds, has been the suggested appointment of Major Roy, of Montreal, as commandant of the R.R.C.I. at St. Johns. This is a persistent old falsehood, for it bobs up at odd intervals with unvarying regularity. There does not seem to be the slightest foundation for it in fact. When Major Roy returns from England it is extremely probable that he will be promoted from the position of brigade major at Montreal, though it is not likely that he will be moved to any other point.

The supposed appointment of Lieut.-Col. G. R. White, of the 8th Royal Rifles, Quebec, to the assistant adjutant generalship, is

the third story which has been canvassed, and it appears to have just as solid a foundation on fact as the other two. There does not seem to be any pressing need of the vacant position being filled, and unless Col. White has claims on the party that I wot not of, it would seem more than likely that some other who may stand closer in "the order of aspiration" will have a more promising chance of writing "A.A.G." after his name.

There was a movement on foot here some time ago which tended to the establishment of a military library in the city. The matter was brought to the notice of the Minister of Militia in the late Government, but no steps were taken to have the library established.

The matter is again being worked by those interested and they are not few in numbers. It is suggested that a room be properly fitted up in the drill hall. The military publications of Canada, United States and Europe would all be furnished gratis to the Canadian Government and the janitor of the drill hall could act as librarian. The room would be open at all times, that any military man might drop in and see what is going on in the military world outside. He would receive new ideas, catch new inspiration and take a much greater interest in his company and in his battalion. The cost being almost nothing and the advantages to be gained being very great, there is no evident reason why this library should not be established.

THE LOCAL CORPS.

In contrast with the state of affairs at headquarters, the local corps have been putting in an exceedingly busy time of it. The weekly parades of the Guards have been well attended and the men have been doing excellent work. The class firing has been finished, and with the inspection of armories and answering of questions, which will take place on Friday night next, the serious part of the year's work will have been practically concluded.

The 43rd Ottawa and Carleton Rifles have also been hard at work, what with regimental parades and officers' and sergeants' classes. Class firing has been concluded. The riflemen will soon have the opportunity of welcoming home their commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Wright. It is expected that he will be back from British Columbia early in November. He has been up in the Omenica gold district and has, it appears, met with success. Major Sherwood has had command during his absence, and it goes without saying that the work has been done most efficiently.

On Sunday next a garrison church parade is to be held. The headquarters and district staffs, the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, 2nd Field Battery, Governor-General's Foot Guards and 43rd Ottawa and Carleton Rifles will parade, the Protestants proceeding to Christ church and the Catholics to St. Jean Baptiste

