



The School: Its Purpose: Its Staff.



THE Canadian Corps Training School for Officers and N.C.O.'s was inaugurated in July, 1916, and is now established as a permanent adjunct to the Canadian corps. The idea from which the institution developed germinated in the mind of the Corps Commander, Lieut.-General Sir Julian H. G. Byng, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

The object of the school is to train officers and N.C.O.'s to become instructors in drill, bayonet fighting, physical training, musketry and trench warfare, and also to establish that good feeling between divisions and battalions which is so necessary, and only possible when members of the various formations meet, talk things over, and learn to appreciate each other's difficulties.

With the exception of the artillery every battalion and every other fighting unit in the corps is represented at each succeeding class. The opportunity thus offered to develop an esprit de corps which is more than a mere phrase is at once apparent. The infantry's misunderstanding of the difficulties confronting other arms of the service and the other arms' failure to see the infantry's point of view is not eradicated by the close association of higher commanders, but by the officers and men of the various formations getting together and learning to know each other and each other's work.

Five classes have now passed through the school. In the first class in July of last year there were 25 officers, and in the second 52 officers drawn from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Canadian Divisions. The school was closed in August and did not reopen until October, when the third course was held, consisting of 52 officers and 112 N.C.O.'s from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions. The first three courses were for three weeks, but it was found that in the winter time, when the days were short and the weather was uncertain, it was desirable to have the course lengthened to four weeks. The fourth course commenced on November 26, and was attended by 64 officers and 128 N.C.O.'s from all the divisions of the corps. The fifth class, consisting of 61 officers and 142 N.C.O.'s, opened January 1 and concluded January 28.

The course of training, as laid down in the syllabus, is thorough, and covers a wide field. The idea, in a broad sense, is to brush up the students in general as well as specific military knowledge, and smarten them in appearance and bearing.

The staff of officers comprises men picked by the corps commander himself. The officers comprising it are: Major A. D. Cameron, M.C., commandant; Major J. D. Macpherson, M.C., chief instructor; Capt. R. S. Winslow, engineer instructor; Capt. N. A. D. Armstrong, sniping instructor; Lieut. A. D. McNeill, adjutant and quartermaster.