

ments of the lightest; a small service pouch, or ball bag, would contain his ammunition; his reserve being carried on his horse, from which he would never be long parted; his particular duty being sudden surprises, flank movements and skirmishing. I have dwelt upon the organization of mounted riflemen, as being, in my opinion, a description of cavalry best suited to the peculiar requirements of this country; and it has been frequently a matter of surprise to me that the matter has not received the consideration of our Adjutants-General.

Having thus provided for the constitution of the Force, the next question to which I propose to draw your attention is the provisions for their instruction, summarized briefly under the following heads viz:—

1st. Twenty-one days' paid drill—7 at company headquarters, 14 at brigade camps. The period of drill to be adjusted to the time most suitable to the occupations of the men. This would utilize the drill sheds, that are now comparatively useless.

2nd. Drill instruction by qualified instructors. A sergeant-major might be attached to each battalion at a fixed scale of pay, upon whom this work would devolve. The present payment of \$50 to captains of companies, most of whom are totally unqualified, is mere waste of money.

3rd. The storage of arms, accoutrements and clothing in the armouries provided for them, to be removed only at times of drill and target practice. The immense loss that accrues annually from neglect of these particulars is incredible, and volunteers can never be persuaded into the necessity for such a regulation.

4th. The provision of proper ranges, targets, &c., at the headquarters of each company, and their instruction in musketry by a qualified instructor.

5th. The issue of clothing regimentally, at the commencement of the three years' period of drill. To be worn by the militiaman to whom it is issued, and in case of his removal or death, or loss by accident, its substitution by a new suit issued to the recruit taking his place. It is not fair to ask recruits to take old uniforms. Of course, losses by carelessness, &c., to be repaid by the militiaman personally.

6th. Provision for the transport, rationing and pay of officers and men in brigade camps with suitable allowances for providing water, fuel and light, and a margin for unforeseen expenses.

By the present system of division into Military Districts, each under the command of a Deputy Adjutant General, and which are again subdivided into Brigade Divisions, each having its Brigade Major; a cumbersome system is obtained, useless in time of peace, and worse than useless in time of war. Apart from the anomaly of a Deputy Adjutant General commanding a Division in the field, is the more serious feature; that in case of war, the removal of the District Staff Officers (who alone possess the requisite knowledge for organizing the reserves, and forwarding them to the front) would leave no one behind them sufficiently familiar with the military resources of their districts to take their places. It is obvious, therefore, that, under any circumstances, the District Staff Officers should not command the Districts; but that the senior officers, not on the staff, should command Brigades and Divisions in the field, leaving the District Staff where it would be most usefully employed, in organizing and forwarding men and material to the front. For the purposes of annual drill these considerations are not

so important, although it is unquestionable that the organization required for purposes of war should be perfected in time of peace. With this view I should strongly advocate the grouping of regiments into brigades, under command of the senior qualified officer, to whom would be attached the usual staff. These officers would only be paid during the periods of annual drill; but their appointment would develop a staff organization, without which an army has been fitly described to be "a giant lying prostrate on the ground, who, though powerful in outward appearance, is destitute of bone and muscle, and is consequently incapable of action." Such Brigade Staffs, with a Deputy Adjutant-General for each arm of the service at Ottawa, and a District Paymaster and Storekeeper at each District headquarters, would render the staff organization more complete, and much less expensive, than at present. The same organization should prevail in the Reserve Militia, the senior officer being the channel of communication with headquarters at Ottawa, and in time of war furnishing to the Brigades from the Division the drafts necessary to fill up its quota in the field.

The important suggestions of General Sir James Lindsay, especially in so far as regards the appointment of a Major-General to command the Militia, and act as the chief military adviser of Government, are well worthy of the serious consideration of Government. Such an appointment would be of incalculable benefit to the Force, and would supply that medium between the civil and military branch of the Department of Militia and Defence that has long been required. This officer, with an efficient staff representing each arm of the service, at headquarters, would be able to hold direct communication with the Commandants of Districts, saving much time now lost in circumlocution, with the advantage of being intimately connected with his command. The outlying Provinces would doubtless require a resident Commandant, who would act as Deputy Inspector of Militia and Reserve Forces. There should be also at headquarters a Deputy Quartermaster General, having charge of all matters connected with the transport and camping of troops. He would also have under his control the military stores, drill sheds and rifles ranges, and attend to the provision of barracks accommodation when required. The buildings and lands turned over by the Imperial Government for military purposes should be under his supervision. His department should be thoroughly organized, and the most energetic and capable surveyor or engineer in each district appointed as Assistant Quartermaster-General. Under his supervision district maps should be compiled, embodying the latest topographical changes. The information could be obtained from township and country surveyors, to whom a small remuneration should be paid for the service. The question of expense, is however, a trifling matter in comparison with the immense importance of this work. The organization of District Commissariat Staffs, with capacity for extension in case of war, is also one of the needed innovations.

The organization of Division Staff, consisting of a Commandant, Assistant Adjutant General, Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Brigade Major, would furnish the only machinery by which the Militia could be adequately governed. These officers would receive no pay except on active service; but a small contingent allowance should be made to cover all expenses. This should be clearly laid down, and if the amount were exceeded (unless under very exceptional circumstances)

the loss should be borne by the Commandant.

To each regiment should be attached a competent trained drill instructor, who should, if possible, be the adjutant or sergeant-major of his corps, and act as regimental store keeper beside. This person should be paid directly from the department, although holding his position under the officer commanding the regiment. The present system of payment for drill instruction is simply throwing money away, one-half of the recipients being utterly unable to instruct a company.

A small contingent allowance should be made to officers commanding regiments, to provide for postage, stationery, and incidentals.

A provision should also be made for the repairs of arms and equipments, and for furnishing Kangoon oil to caretakers of armouries, and stock and tools to district armourers.

A very great drawback in the organization of the Brigade camps has been experienced in the fact that the company unit has been hastily assembled, hurriedly equipped, and imperfectly clothed. This is owing to the reason that, under the present system, men never don any uniform or shoulder a rifle from the time of one annual drill until the next year, unless at target practice. The drill shed erected at great expense to the country, have thus become virtually useless. To provide for the assembly of companies for drill during the winter months, it is proposed that pay at the rate of 25 cents per drill of three hours be allowed for seven drills on separate occasions. This would make attendance compulsory, and tend to greater coherence of the company unit, increasing *esprit de corps*, and preventing officers and men from forgetting what they had learned, in the long interval between the annual trainings. These drills would be superintended by the regimental drill instructor, who would be held responsible as to the numbers attending the muster, and that no man was returned for pay who was not actually present. Some such inducement is absolutely necessary in order to ensure a proper attendance at company drills. These companies would then be fitted for regimental duties, on marching into camp for the annual drill.

In carrying on the system of brigade camps inaugurated in 1871, a vital principle of organization is involved. Regimental camps are good, brigade camps are better, giving a more extended knowledge of military duty, and provoking a friendly emulation between regiments, in matters of dress, discipline and efficiency. It is a mistake, however, to carry the thing too far, and to allow a camp of instruction to degenerate into a military spectacle. For this reason very large camps are to be avoided, not only on account of the distances required in the concentration of troops, and consequent increased cost of transportation; but in the fact that there is too much holiday-making in the assemblage of large numbers of spectators, and the object of the drills are diverted to provide amusement, and not instruction.

Small camps, in central positions, within marching distance of at least two regimental headquarters, are much to be preferred. If, for the gratification of the public, it was considered desirable that a military spectacle should be afforded, the commandants of two brigades might arrange to march to a central position, and jointly hold a field day. Indeed, such autumn manoeuvres, on a small scale, would be productive of the best effect, inuring the men to marching, and