

GOSSIP ABOUT MILITARY MEN AND MATTERS



The month of April has been ushered in with a great display of activity in military circles. The different regiments and corps, with the exception of the Battery, which is handicapped for want of guns, have held their initial parades, and are settling down to the real work of the season. If anything was wanted to add to the enthusiasm of the military men, nothing could have supplied that want so efficiently as the erection of the magnificent new armory has done. To say that the officers are pleased with their appointments is putting it mildly, while the boys never cease talking of their new quarters and the conveniences in them.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce, the new commander of the Highlanders, makes a worthy successor to Colonel Logie. He has the satisfaction of knowing that he takes up the command of one of the strongest and most efficient regiments in the Dominion. Lieut.-Col. Bruce has been prominent in military circles for

is expected that the remodeling of the front of the old hall, so as to conform with the new armory will eat up a large part of this grant.

NEW RIFLE SIGHTS.

The information sent out from Ottawa a few days ago to the effect that the Sutherland rifle sights would be issued this spring was hailed with delight. These sights do away with the use of a vernier, and are equipped with wind gauge. There will be a sufficiency to equip all the Lee-Enfield rifles now in possession of the Canadian Militia.

PLEASED.

The appointment of Lieut.-Colonel Logie as commanding officer of the Fifteenth Military District was received with great satisfaction by the officers and members of the local regiments. Lieut.-Colonel Logie is a very popular officer and his career in the militia has been a brilliant one. He has been actively connected with the militia here for over twenty years, and it is largely through his energetic work that the Ninety-First Regiment was formed and made the splendid success it now is.

TRYING FOR THE REGULARS.

Lieutenant Colquhoun, of the Ninety-First Regiment, will try examinations on May 11th for a commission in the permanent corps. Lieut. Colquhoun's chances are very bright, as he is well up in military work, and has devoted a large portion of his time to the study of tactics. Though wishing him every success the company will be sorry to lose him for he is a popular officer, being a favorite with both the officers and boys.

NEW DRILL MASTER.

In Sergeant-Major Gilmour the Ninety-First Regiment has a drill master who will soon have the boys in the best of shape, and they are to be congratulated in securing so efficient a man. Sergeant-Major Gilmour has the reputation of being one of the most efficient instructors at Woolley Barracks, which is saying much.

GREAT SHOOTING TOURNAMENT.

A great international shooting tournament for both rifle and revolver will be held in the United States during the month of September. The matter is one of interest to Hamilton enthusiasts. Hamilton has now one of the finest and most complete galleries in Canada, and in the different regiments are men whose shooting abilities should qualify them for a tournament of this kind.

MAJOR W. O. TIDSWELL.

Commanding officer of the Fourth (Hamilton) Field Battery.

the past twenty years, having joined the Thirteenth Regiment in 1889. He served as a first and second lieutenant in H and B companies. He joined the "Kilties" as senior major when the corps was organized in 1903, and since that time has devoted a large part of his time to the interests of the regiment.

The Thirteenth regimental parade last night was the largest this season, there being all told 467 men out. This, again, well, and taking into consideration the large number of recruits that apply for admission every drill night, the number of men on the rolls this year should break all records. The Thirteenth, Hamilton's "old stand by," has not deteriorated during the months of idleness, and has lost none of the swing which has made it famous as one of Canada's smartest and strongest regiments. The parade state was as follows: Lieut.-Col. Moore, Majors Ross and Newburn; Capt. Donville, adjutant; Capt. Carter and Col. Griffin, surgeons; Major Lester, quartermaster; Major Forrester, chaplain; buglers 37, band 41, bearers 15, recruits 25, signallers 5, A 39, B 43, C 46, D 36, E 37, F 40, G 36, H 18, total 467.

There was another good turnout of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Army Service Corps last night for instruction in saddlery. Sergeant Major Sloan stripped the army saddle, which is a very intricate affair, and explained each part and its particular duty. The saddle was then put together by the class.

Next Friday being Good Friday, no drills will be held.

UNIQUE POSITION OF THE BATTERY.

The position of the Fourth Field Battery is a unique one. Its guns were sent to Petawawa last autumn for the use of the firing detachments of the different artillery corps throughout the Dominion, and up to date have not been returned. Without guns drill is practically out of the question. Although nothing official has been given out, it is said to be the intention of the Militia Department to hold the old guns and equip the Battery with the new 18-pound, quick firing guns which are being served out to the Royal Artillery corps in England. This would be a most welcome change as the old guns were somewhat out of date.

Artillery is an arm so expensive to equip that its increase, though considerable in the last few years, has necessarily been slow, and can only be carried further by degrees; yet a sufficient proportion of guns is especially needed for a force composed of citizen soldiers. Rearmament, it is now in progress and it should be completed as rapidly as possible.

The Fourth Field Battery will have a recruiting sergeant at the orderly room at the east end of the old armory every Wednesday night, commencing with next Wednesday night.

ALTERATIONS IN OLD ARMORY.

Many alterations will be made in the old armory this spring. It is understood that the interior is to receive a thorough overhauling, remodeling and renovating, and accommodation provided for the Army Service Corps, Army Medical Corps and the Battery. Room will also be left for a cavalry corps, in the event of the removal of the Second Dragoons, of Burford, to this city. Thirty-seven thousand dollars have been set aside by the Government for the fixing up of the old armory, but it

played by Capt. R. A. Robertson, then Lieut. Robertson, it is very doubtful if a Canadian team would have been sent to the tournament at which it won the Palma. Hearing of the event he began correspondence which ultimately resulted in the sending of the following team: Major J. J. Mason, 13th Regiment, commandant; Major R. H. Helmer, 43rd Regiment, Ottawa, adjutant; Lieut. R. A. Robertson, Hamilton; Lieut. W. L. Ross, Hamilton; Sergt.-Major Huggins, Hamilton; Staff Sergt. T. H. Hayhurst, Hamilton; Color Sergt. E. Skedden, Hamilton; Capt. W. H. Davidson, Quebec; Capt. R. J. Davidson, Quebec; Capt. J. Duff, Vancouver; Pte. A. Fleming, 5th Regiment, B. C. A.; Pte. J. T. Peddie, Montreal; Pte. S. S. Pampel, Dundas. The Canadians won by 28 points, the totals being, Canadians 1,522, Americans 1,494. Nothing would suit the people of Hamilton better than to see a Canadian team repeat the trick.

The following invitation has been sent out by the National Rifle Association of America:

Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

To the Riflemen of Canada, Greetings:

It is proposed to hold in the United States of America during the month of September, 1909, an international rifle and revolver shooting tournament, at which both long and short range and various styles of shooting will be carried on. The principal feature of the tournament will be a contest for the famous "Palma trophy," emblematic of the world's military team championship. In addition to this match will be a team match at 300 metres, continental methods of shooting and targets, and a team match for revolver or pistol. You are cordially invited to send a team or teams and individuals to participate in this tournament. Everything that can be done to make their visit profitable, as well as enjoyable will be done by your brother riflemen of the United States. Respectfully, James A. Drain, President, National Rifle Association of America, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

Teams—Each team shall consist of eight men, who must be citizens and

of the age of 18 years or over.

It may safely be assumed that however distasteful this particular duty may be to the men of the permanent corps, the last portion of it will be fully appreciated.—Toronto Telegram.

The Gazette says: It will be a matter of interest to many to know that in future the appointment of signalling officers in regiments of cavalry and infantry (non-permanent) will be filled from the ranks of officers in the regiment; in the case of city troops their promotion will be according to seniority in each regiment, while in the case of rural corps the same regulation will apply as in the case of adjutants; the period of appointment is limited to five years.

New militia units are being added to the militia list every day. Within the past six years 10,000 militia have been added to the active list by the addition of new corps. It is quite likely that an equal number will be added in the next few years.

A short resume of the present military situation has been given, from which it will be seen that the policy of the Militia Department has been directed steadily towards the attainment of a standard and accepted by Parliament, and with the single end in view of fitting the militia force as a whole to take the field in such a condition of efficiency that the people of Canada may feel safe in entrusting to its keeping the honor and security of the nation.

The expenditure on militia services for 1908-09 shows a decrease of \$46,813, as compared with that of 1907-08.

While the expenditure for annual drill of active militia rose from \$899,424 in 1904-05 to \$1,075,000 (exclusive of the cost of the Quebec celebration) in 1908-09, and is, for the year 1909-10 estimated at \$949,000, the increase in cost has been accompanied by a large increase in the number of both men and horses trained, namely, from 32,500 men and 7,802 horses in 1903-04, to 47,500 men and 8,500 horses in 1908-09.

The expenditure on the permanent force is \$51,000 less for pay and allowances than it was in 1907-08.

NEW THEORY.

Cold-Storage Eggs Declared Better Than Fresh Ones.

New York, April 2.—A despatch from Minneapolis to The Times says that Professor John L. Coulter, of the economics department of the State University, to-day gave his class a lesson on egg-buying, incidentally contravening a time-honored idea of the housewife. He declared that cold-storage eggs were much better than the fresh ones. His theory was that eggs put in cold-storage and carefully inspected were as good after three years as they were when packed away.

"The fresh egg of commerce," declared the professor, "is in all probability an egg that would be discarded in the storage house, and still further, nine out of ten dozen so-called fresh eggs sold in stores are more than a year old."

The coroner's jury at Sandwich found that Fireman Conway's death was accidental.

A young Italian sentenced to fifteen years in penitentiary for shooting his father at Montreal asked the Judge to make it hanging.

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