

INTELLIGENCE LECTURE.

BY

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GENTLEMEN:—

I should like to begin by expressing to you how very much flattered I feel by being asked to say something to you on Intelligence Duties. It is a great pleasure to me to do so, but I cannot help being rather doubtful as to whether I am the right man for the job, as although I have specialized in Intelligence work, all my experience has been in the British Isles and Western Europe. The value of practical experience seems to me to lie in being able to collect a large number of small points, which have been practically tested; none of them may be important in themselves, but as a whole they form a valuable *vade-mecum* for an Intelligence Officer.

Now conditions in Europe, with its innumerable roads and railways, its small enclosures, its close population and its comparatively short distances, is very different to the conditions obtaining in the Dominion.

I have consequently omitted many points which did not seem to me to apply to Canada, but I must warn you that this process may not have been sufficiently drastic.

First of all as to Intelligence duties in general.

You probably know Bernard Shaw's description of a soldier—"A man who is always preparing for something that never happens and which when it does happen is quite different to what everyone expected."

I fear that there is a substratum of truth in this. The gunner and the rifleman find it very difficult to reproduce war conditions with blank cartridges. This is not the case with the Intelligence Officer. Given that the probable theatre of war is known, an enormous amount of valuable information may be acquired in peace time. The extent of this information and its accuracy will be of the first importance as regards the marching of troops, their food supply and water arrangements, and consequently the maintenance of that high morale