

THE CANADIAN LIBERAL MONTHLY

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WHY CAMP BORDEN?

PRIOR to the outbreak of war Canada possessed 359,000 acres of military camp grounds, exclusive of Valcartier Camp. The purchase of Valcartier Camp in Quebec, which is approximately 13,000 acres in extent, brought the total up to 372,000 acres. It was considered at the time of its purchase that it would accommodate a large proportion of the Dominion's troops, while at the same time being handy to the point of embarkation at Quebec. Some idea of the number of men which could be accommodated there may be gathered from the fact that the first Canadian contingent of 33,000 men was bivouacked there, and they occupied only a small part of the site purchased.

In May of 1916, the public were informed that Camp Borden, 16,200 acres in extent, had been purchased despite the fact that the number of Canadian troops being trained in Canada were decreasing daily.

Apart from the fact that Valcartier Camp was capable of accommodating a very large body of men it may be interesting to enumerate the other military camps of the Dominion, and to thereby indicate how superfluous was the purchase of Camp Borden. The following are the camps of the Dominion with their respective areas:—

Aldershot, N.S.....	966	acres
Sussex, N.B.....	300	"
Farnham, P.Q.....	1,318	"
Three Rivers, P.Q.....	306	"
Levis, P.Q.....	1,248	"
Petawawa, Ont.....	70,400	"
Barrie field, Ont.....	788	"
Niagara, Ont.....	656	"
Carling Heights, Ont.....	80	"
Camp Hughes, Man.....	90,000	"
Moose Jaw, Sask., remount depot training grounds.....	69,269	"
Medicine Hat, Alta., remount depot and training area.....	124,000	"
Sarcee Camp, Alta., and Vernon, B.C., areas not given.....		
Kamloops, B.C., Tunkwa Lake.....	5,760	"

This makes a total area of over 365,000 acres. Valcartier brings that total up to 378,000 acres, and the addition last May of Camp Borden brought the total up to over 394,000 acres. This is an acre of ground for the accommodation of every soldier who enlisted since the war began. These figures do not include large military areas, such as Dorval, Laprairie, Rockcliffe, Connaught Range and scores of others which have been utilised by the Militia Department for the training of soldiers.

Camp Borden has been in operation about four months, and is now closed down, perhaps never to be revived. Over two millions of Canada's money wasted for what, to give the egotistical Sir Sam Hughes an opportunity of exhibiting himself reviewing troops before the moving picture man.

THE NATIONAL SERVICE BOARD.

Under which the Parliamentary Committee of seven Conservatives and five Liberals (the latter appointed by Sir Wilfrid) were asked to work.

The personnel of the Board of National Service appointed by the Borden government strikingly illustrates the fact that the Government's idea of National Service is Party first. We quote hereunder the names of the members of this Board. Read them over:—

G. S. Campbell, Halifax, N.S.—

A strong Conservative and a close personal friend of Sir Robert Borden.

Capt. L. T. D. Tilley, St. John, N.B.—

A lawyer, a strong Conservative and has been for years connected with the Conservative Association in St. John, N.B. He is a son of the late Sir Leonard Tilley, who was a Minister in Sir John A. Macdonald's cabinet.

Lt.-Col. C. A. Chauveau, Quebec, Que.—

A Conservative and law partner of the present Postmaster-General, Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, K.C., M.P.

J. H. Sherrard, Montreal, Que.—

A Conservative. At one time Hon. President of the Westmount Conservative Association, and at the present time on their Board of Directors.

Lt. W. N. Bowen, Lansdowne.—

A farmer and a strong Conservative and a close personal friend of Hon. Senator Geo. Taylor.

Lt.-Col. H. Brock, Toronto.—

A Conservative and a lawyer; son of the late W. R. Brock, ex-Conservative M.P. of Toronto.

Mr. K. W. McKay, St. Thomas, Ont.—

Mr. McKay's family traditions are Liberal and while he has not taken any active part in politics he has never departed from these family traditions.

E. R. Chapman, Winnipeg, Man.—

A very active Conservative and at one time was Secretary and later President of the Centre Winnipeg Conservative Association.

Mr. A. L. Haining, Saskatoon, Sask.—

Was organizer in 1911 for the Conservative Party in Saskatoon and recently has been organizing the City of Saskatoon for the Conservative Party for the coming General Elections.

R. B. Bennett, M.P., the Chairman.—

Conservative member of Parliament.

R. F. Green, M.P.—

Conservative member of Parliament.