

*"Requirements to complete the specified course of Education—Practical Subjects.*

"Instruction and practice in equitation should, in accordance with Regulations of Council, have been commenced last September, but no horses have as yet been made available for this service.

"An Officer who cannot ride is useless on the Staff or for any mounted corps or duty; every Officer is likely to be called upon to perform mounted duty, while all should aspire to Staff employ.

"A man seldom becomes even a moderate horseman unless he learns riding during his youth.

"The addition of about fifteen horses to the Kingston 'A' Battery, School of Gunnery, would render it an effective field battery (which, for want of horses, it is not at present) and at the same time enable it to provide the necessary facilities for practice of equitation by the cadets of the Military College. This addition of horses would also probably suffice to enable a limited number of cavalry Officers and non-commissioned officers to be attached to 'A' battery for the purpose of going through a much needed course of riding.

"At all military educational institutions similar to the Royal Military College there is always a detachment of regular soldiers who perform certain necessary duties far more economically and satisfactorily than civilians, and by a very small increase to 'A' battery the latter might afford similar assistance to the College, while having the men available for recall to their battery as gunners for any emergency.

"The prescribed course of military drills and exercises is designed to culminate with practical exercises in military engineering. It is to be regretted that the absence of the necessary facilities prevented this instruction from being commenced last September, and I beg to urge that provision be made at the earliest possible date to render the ultimate completion of the intended course feasible.

"The honourable distinction which has been recently granted to the College by the conferring upon it of the designation 'Royal Military College of Canada,' forms a step in the history of the institution.

"It is especially gratifying as an evidence that the military spirit, high tone, conduct, and ability of the gentlemen cadets has not passed unnoticed, but has been considered to merit for the College the same title which the old military schools of Great Britain were justly proud to bear; and it thus draws nearer and forms another bond of comradeship between the Militia of Canada and the other military forces of Her Majesty.

"In estimating the value of the Royal Military College of Canada, in comparison with the cost of maintenance, the double aspect of the institution should be borne in mind.

"1st.—It provides a body of young men carefully and highly trained, intellectually and physically, not only with such military education and habits of order, obedience, and command (due to strict discipline) as is requisite to qualify them to become thoroughly practical and scientific Officers, but also, by the breadth and general scope of the curriculum of study, to fit them *equally for any civil business or profession, public or private.*

"2ndly.—The College will, when complete, always have available and ready to turn out at a moment's notice sufficient cadets (after excluding all under 18 years of age) to form two companies or batteries as efficient for actual field service, *either as infantry or artillery*, as any troops of from over one to not less than four years' enlistment, existing, whether as regards discipline, drill, or equipment, and far superior to ordinary regiments in intelligence and general aptitude.

"Field service for the gentlemen cadets *as a body* is not the *primary* object of the institution of the Military College of Canada, but the capacity for it is an *important fact*, the result of its existence, and of the manner in which it has been organized, and one by no means to be ignored in a country which otherwise possesses but 300 thoroughly trained and permanently enrolled soldiers ('A' and 'B' Batteries Canadian Artillery), if only as furnishing an available disciplined armed force, ready at a moment's notice to temporarily relieve these troops in the