Military Vocabulary

(Revised)

Army—A body of men who dig trenches, peel potatoes and supply guards. They are seldom found together, but meet occasionally on pay day. Their chief duty is to shave every morning.

Blackguard—He who pinches his comrade's rum ration. Synonyms: A low fellow; a skunk.

Corporal—One who wears two stripes on his arm and has a mean disposition. He is not quite as unfriendly as a sergeant, but he has hopes.

Drunkenness—A crime. Likewise a memory.

Enemy—Something we hear a lot about but seldom see; i.e., the Demon Rum; Germans.

Fatigues—A military term meaning work. It does.

Guard-See fatigues.

Hughes—Canada's best-known military family. Also a camp.

Indent—A printed form used to ask for coal oil, cabbage, and other luxuries kept in concealment by the Army Service Corps. Occasionally it produces results.

Kamerad—A German word, meaning "We killed your women and children, but spare us." It is being used a great deal this season.

Lieutenant (pronounced Left-enant)
—A gentleman who tries to grow a
moustache and look fierce. Sometimes successful.

Luxury—Something we used to have.
Still said to exist among some civilians.
Music—What is heard when the bagpipes stop playing.

N.C.O.—Usually speaks for itself.

Ordnance—Synonym; mystery. The man isn't born yet who can explain it.

Padre—Meaning pal (if he's the right kind). Everybody's friend.

Rifle—Is divided into four parts, etc. etc., etc., ad infinitum.

Staff Officer—One who tells you why you are wrong, where, how and when.

Tea—See coffee. Also soup. War—Why men leave home.

We Should Like to Know

Why our moustaches should be removed before going overseas. Such a bare-faced order.

If the man who said that the coat of arms of Vancouver was the umbrella ever lived near Camp Hughes.

If the authorities responsible for Camp Hughes thought that the Canadian soldiers lacked "sand."

Why we have such wind storms at Camp Hughes. I don't see what it has to "blow" about.

How they can expect us to "fall in" in the winter time when they tell us to "spring" to it.

Why they call the mess-tent a "white elephant."

Why there is such a large sick parade. Is it because we are the One Nine Sicks?



Pte. Wub has a fit of absentmindedness whilst walking down Portage Avenue with his best girl. Anyhow, it speaks well for our R.S.I. (Regimental Sanitary Inspector)

History of the 196th Battalion

The recruiting and organization of "D" Company (M.D. 11) (British Columbia) was entrusted to Major Brock with headquarters at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. There was considerable delay in getting started as this officer was not available for some time from the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders who were about to leave for overseas. Lieutenants O. C. LeRoy and E. C. Sheppard, also from the 72nd Seaforths, together with Lieutenant Kerr assisted in the recruiting and training of this company. Active work started about April 1st. Circulars were sent to professional men of all classes in the province. Offices and a recreation room were provided in the university. A military camp, erected on the university grounds furnishing sleeping and messing accommodation, was ready by May 1st for occupation.

The King Edward High School provided a parade ground, and the City of Vancouver an athletic park for sports and games. The circulars brought recruits of the university type from all parts of the province. When Major Brock was called to Camp Hughes to take command of the battalion pending the arrival of the officer commanding, Lieut.-Col. MacKay, the command of "D" Company was taken over by Lieutenant LeRoy who was promoted to the rank of captain. Lieutenant Sheppard received the appointment of captain and second in command of the company. Lieutenants Schofield, Letson and Kennedy of "D" Company, were appointed in Camp Hughes, having been selected from the ranks of this company.

"D" Company joined the battalion in Camp Hughes on June 29th, 239 of all ranks in strength; to date it has furnished 300 recruits.

On June 21st Lieut.-Col. MacKay, having returned from France, took over the command of the battalion. The battalion less "D" Company took part in the General Review of the troops in camp by General Sir Sam Hughes, K.C.B., on June 26th. "D" Company was reviewed at Sicamous Station on its way to camp.

The full battalion paraded for the first time at the Royal Review by His Royal Highness, Field Marshall, the Duke of Connaught, at which they acquitted themselves in a manner that elicited favorable comment.

On August 2nd Major M. C. Rousseau, of the 32nd Overseas Battalion, returned from abroad to assume the duties of adjutant of the 196th.

Lieutenants Boyd, Cowper and Cummings volunteered for immediate service and left Camp Hughes on August 17th with the first Canadian officers' overseas draft.

Notwithstanding the serious handicap occasioned by the month's harvest leave in the best portion of the season, the battalion matured rapidly under the training at Camp Hughes. Physically many have developed almost beyond recognition. In discipline and training they are rapidly becoming soldiers. At the various schools of instruction, in physical training, bayonet fighting, bombing, machine gun, N.C.O.'s and officers' training courses, the men have acquitted themselves creditably, displaying marked earnestness and keenness in their work.

In the realm of sport if it does not lead, it is at least the battalion to beat. In personnel the battalion is what it was hoped and intended that it should It is a battalion of men of the university type. Of the rank and file 400 are university students, law students or senior high school students: 100 are accountants, cashiers or bank clerks, mostly matriculants, some of them are college men; five are university professors or teachers and 83 are high school or public school teachers; five are lawyers, among whom are to be found King's Councillors; 15 are civil, mechanical or electrical engineers, and two are mining engineers: 15 are clergymen; seven newspaper men; six are bank managers; seven merchants; ranchers, farmers, dairymen and horticulturists, most ly school-trained men, are represented by over 100; architects, musicians, dentists, opticians, physical directors, business managers, druggists, shippers, salesmen. builders, railway men, telegraphers, sailors, mechanics and tradesmen are all represented and make up the balance of the numerical strength of the battalion. The average age of the men is 23 years; average height, 5 feet 7 inches; average chest measurement, 371 inches.

Many of the N.C.O's and men are qualified for commissioned rank, 88 hold lieutenants' certificates and one a captain's, of these 16 including a captain hold militia commissions. In addition 10 promotions to commissioned rank have been (Continued on next column.)

Yes, Yes, Go On!

(Continued from Page One)

of their brains, pursuing the nimble joke to its inmost lair. We want jokes—lots of them. We can get along very nicely without an obituary column or a "poet's corner," but we must have an occasional quip with which to enliven the glooms of war.

There are plenty hardships in the army—if you regard them as such. It is a soldier's privilege to grouch, but not through the columns of this paper. And what is the use of grouching, anyway. What seems a tragedy today, will be told as a mighty jest when comrades gather around a friendly fire twenty years hence. (We trust that we have thus delicately conveyed the impression that criticism will be relegated to the useful purpose of lighting fires.)

As regards what is popularly described as humor, one might mention that there are two kinds, good and bad. Good humored chaffing harms no one, but malicious humor cannot be tolerated.

Remember always that the battalion newspaper is a link betwen those of us who have joined the Western Universities' Battalion and "the folks back home." Keep it bright and cheerful. Send in all the funny little incidents that happen, and if they don't happen, try to invent them. Invention is a great thing if not carried too far. We can at least promise that you won't receive a polite, printed form telling you that refusal of the manuscript implies no lack of merit, which printed form is the bane of the budding author. Probably you won't even get the manuscript back.

With these few words, we place the battalion newspaper in the hands of the battalion. It belongs to every man and not to any one man. It has more than a thousand editors, so editors, do your duty.

P.S.—Remember "Our purpose." At ten cents a copy you can figure out for yourself how many copies must be sold to make expenses.

History of the 196th Batt.

(Continued)

made already in this battalion, and a number of the men have been given commissions in other battalions.

More than 62 per cent, are Canadian born and the remainder are almost exclusively British born.

The officers are all professional men, mostly from the university staffs; with a few senior students. The average age of the officers is 31 years, average height 5 ft. 9% inches; average chest, 36% inches.

The men have enlisted with a serious purpose, conscious of the issues at stake and fired by a determination to do what they can for the "cause." The universities are proud of their contribution and are confident that in the ordeal of battle their representatives will exhibit a bravery, endurance and self-sacrifice for the triumph of right that will live as a tradition for the inspiration of future generations of students. The battalion will endeavor to prove itself worthy of this confidence and trust.