

pleases little boys and girls if it is not carried too far, and it gives even more pleasure to beholders when the performance is exhibited in public; but it has nothing in common with the serious business which military men will require from us.

Further reasons for seeking a recruiting ground in the secondary school are (i.) the older boys of a good school are already bound together by those ties of good comradeship which are as essential in a Volunteer company as in any other corporate society. And after they have left school these ties may, and should be maintained—witness the formation of two companies of old boys at the Grocers' Company's School recently. (ii.) The school is a place of discipline, and (assuming of course, that one or more masters will take a share as honorary officers) effective results are easily secured. We noted above that the early efforts to form cadet corps in town failed precisely because of the lack of discipline.*

4. Let us then turn our attention solely to the situation in secondary schools, and, in order to be very practical, let us consider the special situation in that large class of day schools called in Wales "intermediate" or "country" schools, and in England "grammar" or "high" schools. We have in England and Wales more than fifty-five thousand boys over fourteen years of age, and of these half may be credited to the above schools. All these schools are under some kind of public authority, and, if required, their

* I may here mention a point in school organization which arises out of the fact that younger boys cannot be effectively introduced to military drill. I have found it convenient to divide my school into two groups, one for military drill, the other for singing. When a boy's voice breaks, he ought not to be allowed to sing for three or four years; so he leaves the singing classes and joins the drill class.

operations in this, as in other matters, can now, thanks to recent legislation be directed on some systematic plan.

We may assume that on the average these thousands of boys will be available for at least two years, and that nearly all the boys of proper age will be permitted by their parents to join a cadet corps, if the cost is not excessive. There are, of course, a few parents who conscientiously object to military pursuits, and will refuse to allow their sons to wear a uniform. Some would probably refuse even if Government made the matter compulsory; and I am sure we ought to respect these conscientious objections. But these would only be in a small minority, and, if to these we add a few whose physique does not allow them to hold a rifle, we shall have some 90 per cent. of the older pupils in secondary schools who may be regarded as possible material for cadet training; and if the total for any one year be considered small, it must be remembered that every year new members will be enrolled in large numbers, and the older members will, if wise organization be adopted, remain enrolled as "old boys," and continue their training in the art of war.

We have now to consider four points—*a* What time during these two years can be allotted to the work? *b* What money is needed, and from what sources can it be obtained? *c* What branches of military exercise can be most appropriately selected? *d* What form of corporate organization is best adapted to secure permanence and enthusiasm?

a. As to the time to be given up to these pursuits, let me make one remark—We must not rob Peter to pay Paul. Our boys are not over-educated; they have little time