

History of The 210th Battalion

The 210th Battalion was authorized in March, 1916, with Lieut-Colonel W. E. Seaborn in command. The other local battalions had made their start from units already recruited. This battalion, however, had no such advantage. The O.C. was at first all alone and had to commence from the bottom.

Recruiting

The first headquarters of the battalion were located in the Scott Block, in rooms generously provided free of cost by Mr. Thos. Miller.

Training and recruiting went on apace until June when the unit was ordered to proceed to Camp Hughes for summer training. The quality of the training at camp is well known. The 210th took first honors and the much coveted Strathcona Cup for marksmanship, from 32,000 competitors.

Owing to the lack of transport the battalion did not proceed overseas from camp, but returned to the Douglas Barracks for winter training.

Women's Auxiliary

Valuable assistance was given by the Women's Auxiliary. In addition to providing untold comforts to the boys and assisting in recruiting the battalion, these ladies presented a most

beautiful set of colors to the unit just before it proceeded overseas. The actual presentation was made by His Honor the Lieut-Governor and Lady Lake, assisted by Right Rev. the Bishop of Qu'Appelle and Archdeacon Johnson, in the presence of a large concourse of citizens.

Presentation of Colors

The presentation and trooping of the colors was carried out in every detail in true Guards fashion. After the ceremony a reception was held by the Lieut-Governor and Lady Lake in the barracks, and was attended by a very large number of Moose Jaw citizens, the Woman's Auxiliary serving tea.

Shortly afterwards the colors were deposited with due ceremony in St Andrews' Church to be cared for until the boys returned.

Entraining for Overseas

Needless to say, when the boys marched off to entrain for overseas, one of the largest crowds ever gathered together in Moose Jaw, was at the station to wish the boys God-speed.

The battalion travelled to Halifax in two trains, remaining over at Ottawa for one day to be inspected by the Duke of Devonshire, who had just previously been installed as Governor-General of Canada.