

A MUSKETRY OFFICER WITH A RECORD

Lieut. A. H. Burton, musketry officer of this brigade, may truly be said to have fighting blood in his veins. He was born in barracks, being the son of a soldier of forty years' experience to his credit. His father served under Lord Roberts and retired with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, having won his promotion from the ranks.

Our B. M. O. commenced his soldiering at an early age. We seem to have heard a story to the effect that he ran away from school to join the army. Be that as it may,

he was educated at Cheltenham College and, before attaining his majority, was serving in India. The clash of arms was ever, to him, an irresistible attraction. His Imperial unit was the Shropshire Light Infantry, in which he saw service in India, China and Africa.

When the war broke out Mr. Burton held an appointment on the instructional staff of the Canadian Permanent Force. In order to go overseas with the first contingent, he resigned his appointment, enlisted as a private and went to France in February, 1916. In the following June he was transferred from the first to the eighteenth battalion. His qualities of leadership, courage and coolness, added to his knowledge

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Formerly of the House of Commons Catering Department, the Fifth Avenue and Grand Hotels, New York, Hotel Brighton, Coney Isle, and manager of Mackellar's (the late Lord Roberts' favorite Hotel), the Marlborough, Premier and the Royal Crystal Palace Hotels, London

of his life long profession, speedily earned him his commission in the field. He is not given to talk of his achievements. The three gold bars, tucked away in an inconspicuous place on his tunic sleeve, tell their own tale. He returned to England, suffering from wounds and shell-shock. Far sooner than mere wisdom dictated, he went back for more—and got it. On his table reposes the ugly, ragged lump of high explosive shell that was taken from his left thigh. Wounded also in the knee and shoulder, Lieut. Burton is little more than a wreck of his former self and his many friends would be glad to know that he could take a rest and give his brain and body a chance to recuperate.

The principle characteristics he reveals in camp life are—an inexhaustible capacity for work, a marked frankness and directness of speech and a determination that the work for which he is responsible shall be carried out. He has a shrewd and humorous eye—into which it is not pleasant to look when endeavoring to explain away a mistake or oversight. Holding the coveted Hythe "D", musketry is his hobby as well as his specialty, hence his undisputed success as the Brigade Musketry Officer. It is not for us to question the wisdom of the Olympians, but it may be permitted us to wish him the promotion that his services and record seem to demand, as well as improved health and increased strength.