

CANADA'S FORCE WILL REMAIN INTACT.

Will Go to Africa Under Its Own Officers.

Lieut.-Col. Otter Will Command—Ontario and Quebec to be Represented
Among the Officers—Major MacDougall, Major Denison and Captain
MacDonnell Ordered to Assist in the Organization—Company Officers' Names to be Announced on Thursday—Details of Organization and Enlistment.

London cable: Her Majesty's Government have received with much pleasure your telegram of the 13th October, conveying Canada's generous offer of a thousand troops, which they gratefully accept.

(Signed) Chamberlain.

As a Battalion.

Ottawa report: Thanks to the efforts of the Canadian Government, the War Office has reconsidered its decision to accept Canada's contingent for service in the Transvaal as units of 125 officers and men apiece. They will now go to South Africa a fully-equipped infantry battalion, 1,000 strong, officered by Canadians, composed of Canadians and armed and uniformed by Canada.

The wish of the Canadian Government all along has been that the sons of Canada who will fight for the Empire's interests against the Boers of the Transvaal and Orange Free State should be incorporated in one body and commanded by Canadian officers, but the definite statement of the Imperial authorities rendered it a matter of doubt whether the desire of the Canadian Administration would be granted.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Ministers.



CAPT. RANDOLPH C. NESBITT, V.C., who commanded the armored train detailed by the Boers at Krasnap, belongs to the Macdonald Mounted Police. He won his coveted decoration in the Matabele war, when, with thirteen men, he fought his way through the Matabeles, relieved a beleaguered party and escorted them to Salisbury.

ters were determined to leave nothing undone that would induce the Home Government to fall in with Canada's wishes, and so yesterday evening the Premier communicated by cable with the Imperial Government asking that the Canadian troops might be embodied in a brigade or a regiment. The result was shown in a cablegram received by the Secretary of State this afternoon, in which the Imperial Government, acting through Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, intimated that they would accept a Canadian battalion of infantry.

SAIL OCTOBER 25TH.

Lieut.-Col. Otter will be the commanding officer of the Canadian regiment, which will sail from Quebec on the 25th inst. on the Allan Liner Sardinian.

The Majors of the regiment will probably be chosen one from Quebec and one from Ontario. To-night the work of selecting the officers of the regiment is going on at the Militia Department, but it is not probable that the personnel of the officers will be known before Thursday.

EQUIPMENT TO BE ISSUED.

The Superintendent of Stores, Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald, also made arrangements for furnishing the non-commissioned officers and men with the following equipment:

Great coat, 1; helmet, white, 1; field service cap, 1; tunic, 1; frock, rifle serge, undyed, 2; trousers, serge, 2; frock, khaki, 1; trousers, khaki, 1; pair; leggings, leather, 1 pair; boots, 2 pairs; shirts, gray flannel, 3; shirts, under, 1; drawers, 1 pair; abdominal bandage, 1; jerseys, woolen, 1; shoes, canvas, 1 pair; brushes, cloth, 1; hair, 1; blacking, 1; polishing, 1; shaving, 1; razors, spoons, knives and forks, hold-alls, housewives combs, large and small, clasp knives, 1 of each. Towels, 2; soap, pieces, 2; socks, woolen, 4 pairs; blacking, tins, 1.

The khaki trousers are semi-knick-bockers. Between the knee and the boots "puttees" of blue serge will be wound. The "puttee" is of light texture, and is about six feet long, two and one-half inches wide, and furnishes an excellent support to the calf of the leg.

LIEUT.-COL. LESSARD, D.O.C.

Militia orders issued to-day state that until further orders Lieutenant-Colonel F. L. Lessard, Royal Canadian

Dragoons, will perform the duties of District Officer Commanding, Military District No. 2, Lieutenant-Col. Otter having been selected to organize the volunteer force for special service in South Africa.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. H. Vidal, D. O. C., Military District No. 8, and Acting Staff Officer on the Headquarters Staff, returns this day to his district to superintend the enrolment of men for special service in South Africa, and will return to headquarters, Ottawa, on completion of duty. Lieutenant-Colonel Vidal's headquarters will be at the Union Club, St. John.

R. C. R. I. OFFICERS TO GO.

The officer commanding the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry will place the services of Majors J. C. MacDougall and S. J. A. Denison and Lieutenant and Captain A. H. MacDonnell at the disposal of Lieut.-Col. Otter for duty in connection with the organization of the volunteer force for service in South Africa. These officers will await further instructions.

The district officer commanding military district No. 5, will direct Major R. L. Wadmore, commanding No. 3 regimental depot, to proceed to Quebec to take over temporarily the command of No. 5 regimental depot, relieving Major MacDougall.

The Commandant of the Royal Military College will be good enough to order the officers of the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry who are undergoing the long course of instruction at the Royal Military College to return to their respective depots for duty.

All letters, transport and other requisitions, claims, accounts, etc., in connection with the volunteer force for special service in South Africa, should be marked with the letters "S. S." in red ink in the upper left hand corner of the envelope or wrapper containing the same. Officers and employees concerned will keep all correspondence so marked separate, and give it prompt attention and preference over other work.

METHOD OF VOLUNTEERING.

With reference to militia order No. 21, district officer commanding will make arrangements for the enrolment of the men in the volunteer force as follows:

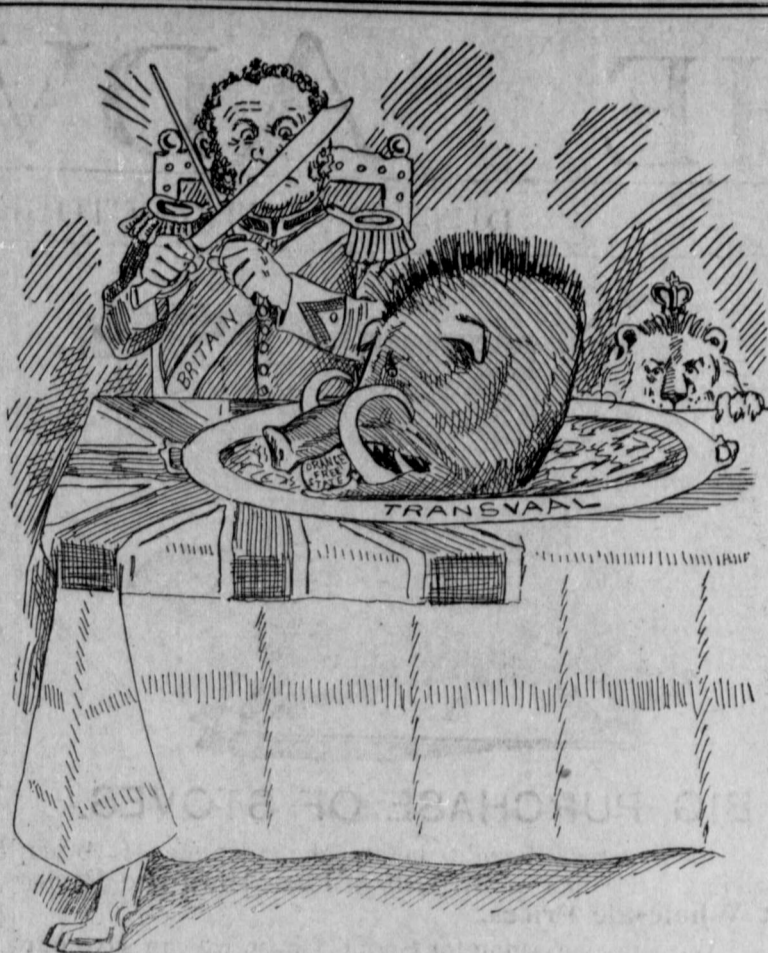
The enrolment will be carried out by the officers commanding the companies, assisted by their subalterns. These officers will report themselves to the district officer commanding the military district in which the enrolment of their companies is taking place, who will render them every assistance. Each district officer commanding will provide the accommodation required for the medical examination and for the necessary clerical work, either in his office or in a drill hall, or elsewhere. He will also procure additional assistance if needed, and will provide the necessary stationery.

The medical inspection of the volunteers will be performed by the medical officers attached to permanent units, or, where there are no such officers, by a medical officer to be selected by the district officer commanding. In the latter case, on the termination of the recruiting, a statement of the number of men examined will be forwarded to headquarters, certified to by the district officers commanding for payment of remuneration. Medical examiners are directed to be careful and rigid in examination of recruits. ONLY THE VERY BEST WANTED.

Only the very best of the men who present themselves, and not necessarily the first-comers, will be selected. The points to be attended to in the selection are that the men should be of the very best possible spirit and physique, of good character and temperate habits; should possess a knowledge of drill and be fairly good shots. The number to be enrolled is 125 in each company. All men serving in the active militia will be enrolled as privates; those serving in the permanent force will be enrolled at their present rank. For purposes of discipline, officers commanding companies can make temporary appointments of N. C. officers, pending the approval of the commanding officer. All men joining the company and the temporary N. C. officers appointed will be paid by the district officer commanding from his imprest credit at permanent corps rates from the date of their attestation. Men of the permanent corps will not be attested or paid until the date on which they are transferred from their present units.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS.

As regards the administration of the companies during formation, the following instructions are given: The companies will be under the command of the district officer commanding, but the officer commanding the company can correspond direct with the officer commanding the force (Lieut.-Col. Otter, Toronto) regarding all regimental matters. At stations where units of the permanent force are quartered, the companies will be attached to such units for



discipline, rations and accommodation. Blankets can be drawn from store, and barrack furniture, failing which, the men must be accommodated on straw purchased for the purpose. At other stations district officers commanding will act on their judgment. The men can either be accommodated on straw in drill halls, or other buildings, and a contract entered into for their rations, or an allowance of 60c per diem can be issued, which, with their daily pay, will cover their subsistence and lodging.

CONCENTRATE AT QUEBEC.

Men enrolled will be kept at the enrolling centres until the company is completed, when a report will be made by the district officer commanding to the chief staff officer, and by the officer commanding the company to the officer commanding the regiment at Toronto, when orders will be given for its concentration at Quebec. If no contract is entered into for rationing during the movement the district officer commanding will issue to the officer commanding the company's subsistence allowance from his imprest account at the rate of 50 cents per man per meal for the whole journey to Quebec, as well as a transport requisition for the whole journey. District officers commanding will pay all expenses out of the imprest sent them, furnishing afterwards receipts in support for all expenditure incurred by them under these instructions. They are held responsible for due economy being exercised, but are to carry out the enrolment accommodation, rationing and despatch by rail of the companies without incurring delay by asking for approval of their arrangements.

The permanent corps are eligible to enlist in the regiment.

CANADA LIFE'S OFFER.

The Board of Directors of the Canada Life Assurance Company held their first meeting in their Toronto office yesterday and signified it by passing a very liberal resolution, touching the interpretation of the company's policies, held by policyholders who may enlist for service in the Transvaal war in South Africa. The resolution is as follows: "The Canadian Government, having decided to send a contingent of Canadians to assist the Imperial forces in the war now pending in South Africa, and it being desirable to clearly define the position of persons now holding policies in the Canada Life Assurance Company, resolved: First, that any extra premium now required for military service be dispensed with on all policies now held by all policyholders of the Canada Life Assurance Company, who give written notice to the company of their selection for service in the Transvaal war. Second: That in the event of any such policyholder not having paid any premium falling due during his absence on duty the company will keep his policy in full force and effect during the term of service abroad, the unpaid premium being treated as a loan upon the policy."

ADVANCING ON DUNDEE.

Enemy is Reported to Have Fifteen Thousand Men With Guns.

Ladysmith report: Dundee is now practically empty. Special trains have brought down three thousand persons, mostly women and children, besides many on trucks (flat cars). A military order to evacuate was received in Dundee at 9 o'clock this morning. The Dutch and native local miners have left their work in the Dundee district. All the mines in this area have been closed down, owing to the alarm that the Boers are in the vicinity of Dundee.

Oliver Davis reports that his store in Ingogo was looted by the Boers. He watched them enter Newcastle on Sunday night, and saw the advance guard of Gen. Joubert's column enter Dannhauser station, which is south of Newcastle.

Our patrol beyond Dundee last night caught a spy named Vermaak. It appears from this man, who is a Dutchman, that the Boers have torn up the railway near Ingagane. A hotel keeper there saw them. Four Boers entered his hotel, bought and paid for their goods, then told him to get out, and

took possession of the place.

Private reports say that a Boer column is advancing from De Jager's drift against Dundee, with about fifteen thousand men, but their number is greatly exaggerated. Probably there are only about seven thousand.

I am returning to Dundee in view of eventualities. The proclamation of martial law will have a beneficial effect in clearing the border of numbers of spies and other suspected persons.

Moving in Three Columns.

The following statement has been officially communicated to me:

The colony of Natal was invaded from the Transvaal early on the morning of the 12th inst. The advance was made by the enemy in three columns. On the right was a mixed column of Transvaalers and Free State burghers, with the Holland Volunteer Corps. It moved through Bothas Pass. In the centre was the main column, under Gen. Joubert's personal command. It crossed Laing's Nek, and moved forward by way of Ingogo. On the left a large commando advanced from Wakkerstroom, by way of Mott's Nek and Wool's Drift.

The objective point of all three columns was Newcastle, which was occupied on the night of October 14th, the central column having slept the previous night at General Colley's old farm, an advance party of fifteen hundred Boers, with artillery, pushed south to Ingagane, but the greater portion of the commando retired during the day on Newcastle.

The Boer force, which for some days has been concentrated east of the De Jager's drift, on October 14th captured a patrol of six men of the Natal police. A picket of mounted infantry of the Sixtieth Rifles also exchanged a few shots with the enemy. This, as yet, is the only fighting.

A large force of Free State Boers, estimated at from 11,000 to 13,000 men, is watching the passes of the Drakensberg range, from Oliver's Hoek to Colliers' Pass. They have pushed patrols in a few cases down the berg, but at present the main force has not debouched from the actual passes, which are being entrenched.

Our troops are in excellent spirits and fettle. The Natal volunteers, in particular, are doing valuable work in a soldierlike manner and spirit. The general officer commanding in Natal greatly appreciates their conduct.

Headquarters Staff.

London cable: The following officers form the British headquarters staff for service in South Africa:

Commanding-in-chief—Gen. Right Hon. Sir Redvers Buller, V. C.

Aides-de-camp—Major Cooper, Captains Schofield and Sackville-West and Lieut. Trotter.

Chief of Staff—Major-General Sir Archibald Hunter, D. S. O.

Assistant Military Secretary—Col. Hon. F. W. Stopford, C. B.

Deputy Adjutant-General—Col. A. Wynne, C. B.

Assistant Adjutant-Generals—Col. C. W. H. Douglas, A. D. C., and Col. H. S. G. Miles, M. V. O.

Deputy Assistant Adjutant-Generals—Col. A. Court, Majors Kiggell, A. H. Thomas and P. J. T. Lewis.

Chief Engineer—Major-General E. Wood, C. B.

Staff Officer Royal Engineers—Major Bethell.

Provost-Marshal—Major Hon. J. H. G. Byng.

Assistant Provost-Marshal—Major G. F. Ellison.

Commanding Royal artillery—Major-General G. H. Marshall.

Staff officer Royal artillery—Major H. C. Schuster.

Divisional Commanders—Lieutenant-General Lord Methuen, Major-Generals Sir Francis Clerg, K. C. B., and Sir William Gatacre.

Brigade-Majors—Major-Generals Sir H. G. Coile, H. J. T. Hildyard, Hon. N. G. Lyttleton, Wanchope, Hart and Col. Brabant.

BOERS ARE TRICKY.

Display White Flags in Order to Trap British.

Orange River report: (Afternoon

delayed)—The Boers suffered a reverse on Sunday at Spruitfontein, ten miles south of Kimberley. An armored train went out to bring in a train reported to have been captured by the Boers near the Spruitfontein siding. A party of Boers who were encamped nearby lowered the railway signal and displayed a white flag, apparently with the idea of inducing the driver to proceed. The driver suspected that the Boers were in possession and stopped the train, whereupon the Boers issued in large force and opened fire, but without any effect. The soldiers replied from the train, and about half a dozen Boers were killed. The British were unscathed.

Seven hundred Boers surprised a party of thirteen Cape Colony police who were guarding the railway at Riverton Road, eighteen miles north of Kimberley, on Sunday morning. The police retired. A terrific explosion was heard later, and it is believed that the Boers blew up the station.

A relief party of 25 police sent from Kimberley met these Boers near Riverton. The enemy displayed a white flag to induce the troops to fall into their trap, but the police were ordered to retire. Then the Boers opened a heavy fire upon them, discharging about 400 rounds. A bullet struck the horse of Surgeon-Major Sullivan, who, with a trooper whose horse had stumbled and dismounted him, was captured.

ACTION HOMES OCCUPIED.

Ladysmith cable: The Free State Boers, on the falling back of the British patrols, occupied Action Homes yesterday. Their probable intention is to co-operate with the discontented Natal Dutch in Umvoti. Major Adye says that not a single shell fired at the British scouts by Boer artillery exploded. This bears out the reports that the Boers' shells are defective. It is reported that Chief Dinizulu held a Zulu indaba near Indaba recently. His attitude is loyal.

LEAVING THE TRANSVAAL.

Many Boers Apparently Afraid of War's Consequences.

Pietermaritzburg cable: It is reported on trustworthy authority that the Boers in parties of twos and threes are arriving in the Umvoti country from the Transvaal, and are being accommodated on various farms. Pietermaritzburg itself is crowded



GENERAL P. A. CRONJE.

General Cronje, who is in command on the southwestern border, will be remembered as having been in command of the Boer force which met Dr. Jameson outside Krugersdorp. After General Joubert he is regarded as the best fighting man in the Transvaal service. His fire-eating opinions and his uncompromising Anglophobia have rendered him very popular in the Republic.

with refugees, to shelter whom all the public buildings are being utilized. There is much distress. Seven thousand natives have entered Natal from the Transvaal within the last week, and most of them have gone to Zululand.

A RIDICULOUS THREAT.

London cable: A despatch from Pretoria asserts that the Transvaal Government has cabled to Mr. Joseph Benjamin Robinson, the millionaire gold-mine owner, and chairman of the Robinson South African Banking Company, who is now in London, to return to Johannesburg on pain of the confiscation of his property. Mr. Robinson characterizes the alleged threat as ridiculous. He says he is a British subject; that the Transvaal Government has no right to demand his return, and that his property has not been and cannot be confiscated.

War Notes.

Smallpox has broken out at Cape Town among the natives from Johannesburg. Eight cases have been discovered.

The cavalry regiments anticipate leaving England about the 20th. The dress will be a khaki jacket, Bedford cord breeches, colonial helmet, puttees and a bandolier. The regiments are well up to strength, the numbers being as follows: 10th Hussars, 721; 12th Lancers, 676; 13th Hussars, 697.

English recruiting officers are travelling in Luxembourg and Lorraine, enlisting for the war in South Africa German non-commissioned officers whose term of service has expired. They are offering a bounty of 390 marks (\$93).

In England mobilization proceeds apace, and the members of the reserve are responding to the call of the Government with alacrity. Great numbers have reported themselves. A majority of the transports that will be used to convey the troops to South Africa are now ready at Southampton.

Despatches confirm the capture by the Boers of Newcastle and a number of minor points on the Natal border. The coast towns are crowded with refugees from the Rand. The authorities here are making every effort to relieve the distress that is prevalent among them. Some of these refugees were compelled to leave the Transvaal with nothing but the clothes on their backs.