

LORD KITCHENER'S REPORT TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The recommendations contained in Lord Kitchener's recent Reports have been adopted and made law in both Australia and New Zealand.

In a very brief summary it may be said that Lord Kitchener suggested to Australia and New Zealand that their country should be divided into Areas, each under a "Permanent Instructional Officer," who is assisted by one or more "permanent instructional N. C. O.s." The officers to be graduates of the Military College. Those entering the College to be selected senior cadets. Lord Kitchener recommends that the instructors be well paid, and he lays down suggested duties for them, which include registration, training, &c., &c.

Three county or two city Areas support one Battalion of Infantry. About ten Areas make one Group which is under a superior instructional officer (Major), who becomes Brigade-Major in war time. Groups of Areas are arranged according to strength of troops in them; as an example, Group V (comprising ten Areas) has 4 battalions of Infantry, a squadron of light horse, 2 field batteries, 1 engineer company, 1 army service corps company and 1 field ambulance.

THE FRENCH-CANADIAN MODEL.

With the above extracts from the three sets of Militia Acts before us, it would almost look as if Lord Kitchener had taken for the model of his report to Australia and New Zealand the old-time Militia Act and Militia customs of the Canadas. For the "parishes" of the French-Canadian Organization we have the "areas" suggested by Lord Kitchener, and for the "Captains of Militia," qualified by personal aptitude for command and educated by the exigencies of frontier life and all that, it meant in those days, we have the "permanent instructional officer" graduated from the Military College, and finished off by short service with the regular army of Great Britain, or India.

BASIS APPLIED TO CANADA.

As an example of the working out of Lord Kitchener's suggestions, suppose they could be applied to Canada in exactly the same proportion (as to population) as they will operate in Australia and New Zealand. We should have in Canada 322 areas, 525 (staff corps) permanent instructional officers (graduates of the Military College), and some 600 warrant and N. C. O.s (instead of the 4834 officers and men in the permanent corps as at present). There would be a peace-establishment of some 120,000 trained fighting men (from our 2,000,000 males of a fighting age in Canada), 336 guns, and a cost in the seventh year (including cost of Military College) of less than fourteen million dollars.