

Second. The recognition of the principle that every man not actually contributing his personal service during any one year, should pay a tax in money which should bear proportion to his property.

In order to fulfill the first condition we must have a *Service Militia* and not a Volunteer Militia, which exposes those who voluntarily serve to a burden of expense not shared by other members of the community. *The draft or ballot* where voluntary enlistment fails.

These points conceded, the establishment of an adequate force on an equitable and sound basis is made plain. The men and money being found the details are easily arranged.

Taking the number men liable to serve in the militia at 700,000 (which is doubtless short of the mark) and deducting therefrom 40,000 active service militiamen and 40,000 reserve, leaves 620,000 men who are liable to pay for the defence of the country. Suppose we rate these at \$200 per head (the rate exacted for statute labor) and it gives us \$1,240,000. If we take the estimate of the Minister of Militia as a criterion, this would leave a surplus of a quarter of a million to be expended in bettering the condition of the force, and providing a sufficient store of arms and ammunition for cases of need. Under any consideration the reasonable requirements of the active force might be satisfied with this sum, leaving a very small surplus to be drawn from the public chest.

With these radical changes a most complete and satisfactory system of internal economy might be built on the present organization.

1st. Twenty-one days paid drill; 7 at company headquarters; 14 at Brigade Camps. The period of drill to be adjusted to the time most suitable to the occupations of the men. This would utilize the drill sheds, that are now comparatively useless.

2nd. Drill instruction by qualified instruction. A Sergeant-Major might be appended to each battalion at a fixed scale of pay, upon whom this work would devolve. The present payment of \$50 to captains of companies, most of whom are totally unqualified, is mere waste of money.

3rd. The storage of arms, accoutrements and clothing in the armories provided for them, to be removed only at times of drill and target practice. The immense loss that accrues annually, from neglect of these particulars, is incredible, and Volunteers can never be persuaded into the necessity for such a regulation.

4th. The provision of proper ranges, targets, &c., at the headquarters of each company, and their instruction in musketry by a qualified instructor.

5th. The issue of clothing regimentally, at the commencement of the three years period of drill. To be worn by the militiaman to whom it is issued and in case of his

removal or death, or loss by accident, its substitution by a *new suit* issued to the recruit taking his place. It is not fair to ask recruits to take old uniforms. Of course losses by carelessness, &c., to be re-paid by the militiaman personally.

6th. The provision of a fund to meet contingencies. Claims to be presented by officers commanding to the Deputy Adjutant General's of Districts, through Brigade Majors, and certified to by all three before being paid.

7th. Provision for the transport, rationing and pay of officers and men in Brigade Camps, with suitable allowances for providing water, fuel and light, and a margin for unforeseen expenses.

These items would include nearly all the legitimate claims upon the public chest. The allowance of \$25 per company to Co's. of rural Battalions is sheer waste of money, they pocket it and in many instances Government receives no adequate return. In some cases, however, there are brilliant exceptions, *but these are the men who do not ask for any such allowance.* Some are even honest enough to refuse to receive the allowance at all.

The grants to efficient bands and in aid of county rifle associations are productive of good, but should be doubled in order to effect much. In rifle matches and the practice consequent upon them, lies a very vital principle of the national defence. Encourage rifle practice, and if possible provide arms for every man able to use them, (with a service supply, and a first and second reserve of ammunition, in the district magazines) and defence is made easy.

In all these items I have shadowed a saving of expenditure rather than an increase. But before my system would be complete, we should require:

1st. District stores and suitable magazines, containing arms, ammunition, clothing and stores sufficient to equip at least twice the number of the Service and Reserve Militia. These stores to have efficient storekeepers and trained assistants, to care for the property of Government in time of peace, and to issue it intelligently in case of war.

2nd. Laboratories in each Province for the manufacture of ammunition for small arms, with a capacity for extension in case of war. By this means and the return of old cartridge cases and ammunition boxes, an annual saving might be made and a plentiful supply of blank cartridge provided for blank firing—a much needed exercise for raw troops.

3rd. The establishment of depot companies at the headquarters of each District, to serve as store keepers, workers in the laboratory, military school instructors, to repair and alter arms, mark at rifle ranges and to furnish guards upon the stores and the forts and armaments belonging to the Dominion.

4th. That such pioneer and engineer tools as might be required on actual service, should be kept in the district stores ready for immediate issue if necessary.

So much for the store department. For the organization of the medical department would be required:

Field panniers, medical appliances, stretchers and a few ambulances, in charge of a staff hospital sergeant or the surgeon of the depot company.

For the Paymaster General's Department would be required a complete set of maps of the district, embodying the latest changes in the topography of the country. In order to acquire this information recourse could be had to county and township surveyors; who could annually be remunerated to make returns of the changes occurring during the year. These could be filled in by a competent draughtsman at headquarters, and reliable maps thus obtained. This most necessary feature must not be neglected. To the want of proper information may be traced the Ridgway disaster; and with so good and reliable sources of information as the county engineers would furnish the machinery is complete and comparatively inexpensive. The staff officers of the districts should also be encouraged to go over the ground and verify the maps (in fact no man should know his district or their divisions better than the Deputy-Adjutant General commanding it and his Brigade Majors); Deputy Quartermaster Generals should also be appointed to each district at a slight remuneration; selection to be made from the most energetic and capable engineer or surveyor in the district. Under his supervision the draughtsman could be employed, whose duty would be to compile the map. The expense of this service would be trifling in comparison with its immense importance.

The organization of a district commissariat staff with a capacity for extension in case of war, is also one of the needed innovations.

With these changes and additions the defensive force of Canada could soon be developed to its greatest extent, and instead of having, as at present, a force that does not represent the value of the money it costs, the country would learn to be proud of its military organization. Why must we sleep when we know not what the coming year may bring forth. Are we, like Prussia, doomed to lose a battle of Jena, before we awake to the conviction that our system is rotten and our security false? Rather let us be over energetic; let us show that we are prepared and we may deter our enemies from the attack.

With one word as to staff organization I shall finish. There is plenty of material for good staff officers in the country—plenty of men who have taken every advantage of the military school system. Why not, by the organization of a staff college, afford such men a further opportunity of acquiring in-