

the advantages of foreign systems of National Defence,—more especially that of the Swiss so admirably applicable to this country. The provisions of this draft should be worked out in detail by Order in Council on the recommendation of a Board of experienced officers, convened at Ottawa for that purpose. Such a course would meet the views of all, avoid sectional prejudices, and give the Militia that standing which alone can win general respect and good will. In order to represent the wishes of the Militia throughout the Dominion, each Battalion of the present active Militia force should designate a person fit to serve on such Board. These again should choose one for each Military District, and the present Adjutant General should have the power of designating two. This board would then consult authorities, receive and examine communications and suggestions from every one able and willing to lay them before it,—weigh every section dispassionately, and select the most beneficial: the provisions finally adopted to become the law of the land.

WORKING OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM.

Under the proposed Militia Law, Canada would be divided into Military Districts, subdivided into Brigade, Battalion and Company Divisions, each having its complete number of officers residing in the division. The Battalions consisting of *all* the able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60, resident within a territorial division, it would evidently produce the most disastrous effect were the Battalion Divisions to be stripped of all their men even for the shortest length of time, and the aged, the sick, the women and children left alone to provide for themselves. For the sake of illustration, we will take a Battalion of 800 strong (this number including, of course, every man in the territorial division between 16 and 60), and we will suppose the Battalion to be divided into 10 companies consisting of 80 men each. Although, for the reasons above stated, the whole battalion could not be spared, for even a few day's drill, much less a lengthy