

HIS IDEALS AND TRAINING

ron to which he has been sent from Oxford. The examinations lasted two whole days and were held in the City Corn Exchange on George Street. Many of us were surprised and rather annoyed at the simple questions asked; only about three per cent. of the applicants failed. The papers were (1) Rotary Engines, (2) Stationary Engines, (3) Bombs, Instruments, Photography, Wireless, etc., (4) Rigging and Theory of Flight, (5) Aerial observation, and (6) A practical test in reading Morse on the buzzer.

The examinations terminated on July 5th and the results came out that afternoon, and my commission dated from midnight of the 5th. On the 6th I was sent with about 40 others to this camp, where we shall learn to fly.

Our journey from Oxford was via Basingstoke, where there is a Canadian Hospital. We had an hour's wait, but did not see anything of the town; being officers we travelled first class. We then passed into the Salisbury Plain district, which is now over-run with Australian and New Zealand troops. We reached Bulford about 7.45 p.m. and waited two hours until a lorry came from the Aerodrome. Bulford was the centre of the Canadian camp in the early days of the war. It is a long way from anywhere, and our camp is a long way from even Bulford. We arrived at the Aerodrome about 10 p.m., and I found three Canadians in the Squadron to which I was posted. I was assigned quarters, found my servant, had my camp bed unpacked, and turned in.

I think we are going to be comfortable here, though it is not such a civilized place as Oxford. The officers mess is near the village on a height above the river. We have to wait on ourselves in Cafeteria style, and cannot sit and be looked after as at Oxford. The quarters are crowded at present, and many of the new arrivals had to go into tents. I share a room with two others in one of the four rooms in little white and black bungalows built of beaver board. They have red (imitation tile) roofs and yellow chimney pots. The mess resembles a good country club and has a capital billiard room, and well furnished anteroom and in front two tennis courts. The aeroplane sheds, half a mile east, are huge affairs, built