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Note and Comment.

The public newspapers are coming into line and exposing the ridiculous attitude assumed by the government towards the graduates of the Royal Military College, Kingston. The Toronto Telegram recently had the following to say on the subject:— "The most casual observer must be struck with the force of the many objections urged against the continuance of the Royal Military College at the country's expense. Repeated attacks are made in Parliament after Parliament, but a pleasant trip to enable the members to inspect the college generally ends the matter for the time. The college itself is certainly doing the best of work—no objection

is or can be taken to that score—but the great cry is 'What becomes of the graduates?' The leaders of each year's class are offered commissions in the Imperial service. Some accept them, many refuse. Those that accept are lost to Canada, it may be said, for ever, and if a youth of this country is to be educated for a British regiment, it is claimed that it would pay the Militia Department of Canada to meet all his expenses at one of the English colleges, instead of keeping up the R. M. C. for that purpose. True, every graduate, on becoming such, is gazetted as a lieutenant (unattached) in the Canadian militia, but very few profit by the concession. Many of the alumni take up the profession of engineering, and as such drift to the neighboring Republic, where their able training meets with due recognition and success. Others are lost sight of. A return to the House of Commons, showing the calling followed by all the graduates since the opening of the college would be very interesting, and quite in order. The military training at the college is naturally very prominent, and there is a growing feeling that this training should be utilized more by the government than is now done. Some advocate the filling of every position in the permanent corps by the men of the college, and others declare that paid adjutants for every regiment in the militia force of the country might be procured from the well-equipped graduates."

Another paper thus comments on the MILITARY GAZETTE'S exposure of one of the most recent appointments for influence scandals:—"The recent appointment of an outsider to the Northwest Mounted Police is not at all relished by the native Canadian.

The gentleman from England who was given the coveted position was recommended, it is said, by the Governor-General, who no doubt imagined it was one of his perquisites. The noble earl should have been disabused of this idea, and he would have been the first to see the force of this contention on the part of those who have spent the best of their days in the service of Canada. If our graduates from the Royal Military College are not competent to fill any military position in the land the sooner its doors are closed the better. The day is past for supplanting native Canadians, other things being equal, by foreigners even if they be distinguished, and the case in point is no exception."

"As Col. J. M. Gibson, M.P.P., is the president of the association, good men will likely be chosen to take charge of the Bisley team." So said a western contemporary a couple of weeks ago, and the writer is a shrewd prophet and knew what he was writing about. More satisfactory appointments than those made could not possibly have been wished. Major Ibbotson is the beau ideal of a popular and successful commandant.

The new armoured train allotted to the 1st Sussex Artillery Volunteers was tried the end of last week at Newhaven. The experiments were completely successful, and showed that the 40-pounder Armstrong breech-loader, which was mounted on an armoured truck, could be fired broadside or in any direction from the railway without mishap or injury to the permanent way. This is the first time heavy ordnance has been fired from the railway in Great Britain, and the first occasion on which it has been done without damaging the line.