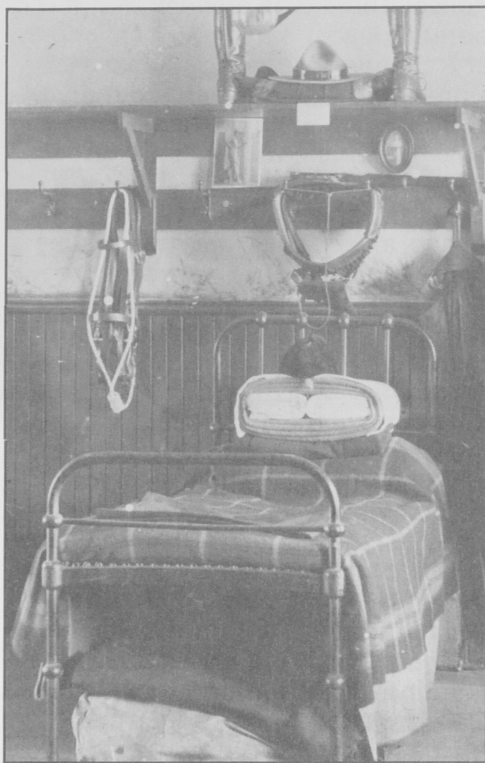


May 20, 1910. "A" Block is decorated with black crepe in mourning for the death of King Edward VII. A salute is about to be fired in his memory. To the left is the riding school and the chapel, as it originally appeared.

gine. This not only decreased the hazards of fire it also brought about the greening of the barrack square. This barren space was enclosed by a boardwalk which connected the buildings lining the sides of the square. In 1889 the boardwalk was extended to meet the one coming from Regina, along what is now 11th Avenue. Trees had been previously sent from the Experimental Farm in Ottawa, but attempts to grow these and start lawns had met with failure because of the lack of water. By 1892, however, native maples taken from nearby creeks had become firmly rooted, green lawns were in evidence, and vegetable gardens had appeared beside the married quarters. Some of the officers and NCOs began to keep chickens, ducks, and even a cow. Others owned conventional pets — there was the devil to pay after someone's dog got into Commissioner Herchmer's chicken pen one night!

Without a plumbing system, having a bath could be quite a chore. Each bather had to heat his water in pails on a stove, then pour it into the iron tub. When he had finished, he had to empty the tub with a pail to make it ready for the next man. Bath night must have been quite a scramble when you realize that there were only two tubs for up to 100 recruits! It was not until 1907 that the barracks were hooked up to



The interior of "A" or "B" Block about 1914. The iron cot shown here replaced the trestles and boards issued to recruits in 1894. The straw palliasses attracted bed bugs, and there were recurring infestations of them in the warm summer months.

the city's new water system and the difficulties of washing and shaving eased.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*