



H.R.H. DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, Honorary Colonel.

24th Battalion (Victoria Rifles) Canadian Expeditionary Force

Formation of the Corps



ANADA'S offer to raise a Second Contingent had been accepted. The news was flashed from London to Ottawa and during the latter part of October, 1914, recruiting commenced.

The busy scenes of August were re-enacted at the various Armories in Montreal, where crowds of men eager to enlist in the 24th Battalion, then known as "Gunn's Regiment," anxiously awaited the verdict of the Government Doctor. "Were they fit for active service?" What a world of anxiety was pent up in the breasts of these men, ready and willing to answer the call to arms! Day by day they were weeded out, the fit from the unfit, for only a man in perfect physical condition can stand the strain of active service. A most rigorous medical examination preceded enlistment, and men were discharged wholesale for misdemeanours, such as drunkenness, or conduct that would disgrace His Majesty's Uniform, and in this manner a most excellent body of men, now known as the 24th Battalion, Victoria Rifles, Canadian Expeditionary Force, was raised, which comprises 1,112 Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

Staff Officers of the Battalion

Major J. A. GUNN, from the 1st V.R.C., appointed Lieutenant-Colonel and Commanding Officer, October 22nd, 1914. Colonel Gunn has been actively engaged in the Canadian Militia since 1867.

Major C. H. HILL, seconded from the Royal Canadian Regiment, and appointed second in command.