

inst., when "B" and "E" companies will put in their first practice there. For some time, two companies will practice on the same evening. The gymnasium is comfortably heated, well lighted by electricity, and equipped with all the necessary apparatus. Good results are looked for from its establishment.

The company officers of the 14th have been notified that the armories, arms, clothing, etc., of the different companies of the battalion will be inspected in a few days.

The 14th has not its full complement of officers, and the work, consequently, falls more heavily upon the present officers of the corps. But this difficulty is to be remedied shortly. A number of prominent young citizens will take commissions in the battalion, and several of the provisionally appointed officers will qualify during the coming winter. The outlook for the coming season is exceptionally bright.

R. M. Horsey, merchant, brother of Capt. E. Horsey, chief of police, and who was a member of one of the early independent rifle companies, died on Wednesday, 6th inst.

### Ottawa.

The recent change in the colonelcy of the Guards is still in abeyance. If the senior major were promoted it would meet with popular favor, and of this there appears to be little doubt. While referring to the Guards it may be as well, however, to recall the fact that within the past five years there have been as many commanding officers connected with this corps, Colonels Ross, Macpherson, Tilton, Todd, Toller and with the present vacancy which will swell the number to six when the new appointment is made.

With the 43rd there also appears to have been some difficulty in retaining their commandants, due mainly to the fact that the departmental regulations of the civil service prevent those holding prominent positions in the civil branch holding commands in the militia service.

What applies to the 43rd applies with equal force to the Guards. Colonels Ross, Macpherson, Tilton, Toller and Todd have all occupied positions in the public service, which may also be said of Cols. White and Anderson of the 43rd.

While there is nothing in the statute to prevent civil servants holding commands in the militia, several of the executive heads of the departments have made it a departmental regulation that a combination of military and civil service is not compatible with efficiency.

The Ottawa Field Battery under the command of Major Bliss is making rapid advances towards efficiency, and with another year in camp will probably become the premier Field Battery of the Dominion. At least the major says that is the point he is aiming at.

The Princess Louise Dragoon Guards will probably be one of the best equipped corps in the country. Capt. Gourdeau has arranged with the department of militia for a new issue of saddlery, and this with their present equipment will give them a status as regards their appointments that will be inferior to none in the country.

What about the issue of furs to the regiments that may be called upon for Guards of Honor?

### Halifax.

We are looking for a correspondent in the "Garrison city."

It is said that the report that the King's regiment was going to remain here another year was probably correct. During the short time the regiment has been in the city over 100 of the men have been married, and there have been many desertions. The detention of the King's regiment here is the bringing into effect of the orders issued by the military authorities at home that Halifax which has for many years been about the first place for troops to be stationed, on foreign service, will be the last. This move is principally due to the great many desertions on this station. The military contend that if Halifax is made the last station for regiments on foreign service, there will not be nearly so many deserters, as most of the men's service being then about up, they would prefer finishing it and return to England, and get their pay. It remains to be seen how the scheme will work.

It is understood that Col. Hamilton will retire from the command of the King's regiment in the spring and that Major Stone will be his successor.

#### Inspection of the 63rd Rifles.

Under general order 46, dated 8th June, the date of company inspection of the 63rd Halifax Rifles was set down for the 22nd and 24th October, and accordingly one-half of the battalion paraded on the 22nd for that purpose.

There was a large gathering of spectators, including several officers of the H. G. A. and 66th, as well as a sprinkling of the fair sex, who seemed much interested in the various evolutions.

In former years Co's. 1, 2 and 3 were the first inspected; and as there is somewhat of an advantage in being inspected last, Col. Egan thought it but fair to reverse the order this year, and ordered the left half battalion—Co's. 4, 5 and 6—to be the first to face the D. A. G., and last night the companies consisted of:

No. 4—Capt. C. W. Gunning.

" 5— " S. J. R. Sircom.

" 6— " J. T. Twining.

While all the companies mustering strongly, No. 5 excelled in that regard, there being 43 of all ranks present.

Lieut.-Col. T. J. Egan was in command,

and the inspecting officers, Lieut.-Col. J. D. Irving, D.A.G. for District No. 9, and Major F. Oxley, H.G.A. (who acted as A.D.C.) arrived shortly after 8 o'clock. After being received with a general salute, the work of inspection began at once, starting with No. 4 Co. The clothing and accoutrements were first minutely inspected, after which the company was exercised in squad drill, bayonet exercise forming columns of half companies and sections, physical drill, skirmishing (by signals), etc. After No. 4 had concluded, Nos. 5 and 6 were inspected, and, while the movements were somewhat similar to those of No. 4, there was variation enough to test both officers and men.

The inspection was completed on Wednesday.

The companies on parade were commanded as below:

No. 1—Capt. T. C. James.

No. 2—Capt. H. Hechler.

No. 3—Lieut. L. Dixon.

The three companies turned out strongly, but No. 1 excelled with 44 of all ranks.

Col. Irving, D.A.G., who was again accompanied by Major Oxley, H.G.A., arrived shortly after 8 o'clock, when the inspection began with No. 1 Co., followed by Nos. 2 and 3. The movements were in the same line as those of Monday evening, and as foreshadowed in our issue of Tuesday the three companies made their usual good showing, going through the different evolutions in a manner that showed both officers and men to be quite familiar with the new drill. While all the companies appeared well balanced, it was the opinion of many that No. 2 (Capt. Hechler's) did the best in bayonet exercise and physical drill.—*Halifax Herald*.

15 officers are attending the Military School, conducted by Major Mellor and the staff of the King's Regiment. They belong to the following battalions:

One from Halifax Garrison Artillery.

Six from 66th Regiment, P. L. Fusiliers.

Two from 63rd Battalion Rifles.

The others belong to outside regiments.

The Blake and Buzzard left for Bermuda at 2 o'clock on Nov. 7th. The whole squadron, consisting of the Blake, Magicienne, Tourmaline, Partridge, Pelican, Tartar, Mohawk, Canada, Buzzard and Cleopatra, will meet at Bermuda, and leave there December 27th on a West India cruise, arriving at Bermuda again on the 2nd of March. The Pelican will leave here Thursday, and the Magicienne on the 10th of December.

The Japanese are reported as meeting with little opposition from the populace in their invasion of Manchuria. The Chinese court and Government are vacating Peking in great alarm.

A private of the Thirteenth Battalion Hamilton, Ont., was fined on Saturday ten dollars for failing to attend drill.