

sections, officers who had fought with success and gained first-hand experience at the front. So the battalion is fortunate in having the more important posts held by old and tried officers.

Major E. A. Seely-Smith was appointed second-in-command, but has since been succeeded by Major L. E. Haines, D.S.O., "A," "B" and "C" Companies respectively are commanded by Majors Wilfrid Mavor, M.C., George H. Weld and A. H. Macfarlane, M.C. The adjutant is Captain Robert Kerr, whose name is known to all the athletic world.

The battalion was mobilised in Ottawa and the short time that elapsed between the date of mobilisation and that of departure was confined to preliminary training and physical culture. The keenness and enthusiasm evinced by the battalion had rapid and satisfactory results; their smartness in appearance and in movement was warmly congratulated by His Grace the Duke of Devonshire when he inspected the battalion prior to departure.

At Frensham Pond.

On the morning of the 3rd of June, the unit left Ottawa for Montreal and on the evening of the same date it had sailed from that port on board the Troopship "Cassandra," bound for England. After a voyage without incident, the battalion disembarked at Tilbury Docks and entrained immediately for the Segregation Camp at Frensham Pond. This camp, lying in a beautiful district of Surrey, was much appreciated by all after the dull monotony of the Atlantic passage, and the life under canvas spent in fine weather, following the somewhat cramped existence on board a troopship was especially welcome. Stiff limbs and kindred ills of a long voyage soon disappeared with the resumption of work and the hearty participation in game and sports, to which a liberal portion of time was allowed.

It has been mentioned above that good physique was a primary consideration in the selection of personnel, and it was soon clearly demonstrated that the selection in this regard at least was successful, for, during this period of segregation several afternoons were devoted to athletic meets in which all the units in camp contested for honours, and the success which attended the efforts of the Tank Battalion was so great that they all but made a clean sweep of the prize list.

At the same time the work as begun at Ottawa was carried on. This time the training had the additional advantage of being in the hands of drill specialists, who were well up in the latest ideas as taught in the army schools of England and France. These specialists consisted of some fifty officers detailed for this work by the Canadian School of Infantry training at Bexhill and great credit is due to these officers for their thorough and efficient instruction, and for the high pitch to which they brought the battalion in drill and soldierly bearing.

Bovington Camp Invaded.

While the battalion was in the hands of the Bexhill officers, leave was granted to the officers of the battalion for one week, namely the second week of July. A day or two after their return to camp, the officers, with the exception of the second-in-command, the M.O. and the paymaster, left Frensham Pond for Bovington

Camp in the county of Dorset. A little over a year ago, Bovington Camp was the centre of training in England for the entire corps, but owing to the great extension of the latter the camp is now solely devoted to the training of battalions as such, while the large camp at Wareham, some six miles distant, was taken over and converted into quarters and schools for the training of reinforcements.

The camp has accommodation for several battalions and the training is carried out under the auspices of the brigade and the battalions themselves. The schools of instruction under the direct administration of the brigade are very extensive, splendidly equipped, and staffed by instructors specially chosen not only for their experience but skill in teaching. The plant at their disposal consists of a mechanical school in which, by means of models, diagrams and stripped tanks and parts, classes gain a clear understanding of the mechanical arrangements in all its intricacies. For the instruction in manoeuvring and driving, tracks where obstacles have been prepared, consisting of barricades, trenches, craters, etc., give the pupil an opportunity of learning to drive under ground conditions as found on active service. The repair shops have an installation of plant complete to carry out all repairs and are full of interest.

Gunnery, revolver, reconnaissance, compass, gas, signalling in suitable forms, including pigeon service, are all included in the curriculum of the brigade school. All courses under brigade instructors are of an advanced nature and have in view turning out men who will be expert in the subjects taught there, while those under the battalion are framed to give a practical working knowledge of these subjects. The scheme works as follows — The combatant men of the battalion are divided into two groups, drivers and gunners. These receive the courses in their respective main duties from the brigade, but so as to provide the necessary all-round training, the battalion gives a practical course in gunnery to the drivers and a practical tank course to gunners. The instruction by the battalion is mainly carried out by Col. Mills and his party, who reported to Bovington early in May for this purpose.

High Marks Recorded.

The day following their arrival at Bovington, the officers, clad in overalls, were all busy at work on the various courses under the brigade. The results of these first courses have now come in and are satisfactory to a high degree. Not one failure to succeed has been recorded. The men having completed their segregation period arrived in camp on August 6th, and at once were sorted into classes and commenced to learn their new trade in soldiering. As yet we have no examination or test results on which to base an opinion of their work, but it is sufficiently assuring to say, that the instructors, some of whom have had practically the whole corps pass through their hands, state that they have never had better material out of which to make a tank unit.

The camp which is well built and comfortable, lies on a high healthy heather-covered moor and is somewhat remote from any place of size. The situation indeed was chosen for its isolation, as it was necessary to keep