

# The Western Scot

Vol. I.

WILLOWS CAMP, VICTORIA, B. C., OCTOBER 16th, 1915

No. 2

## THE LEWIS MACHINE GUN

The present war may be described as a war of mechanics rather than of men, and amongst the mechanical contrivances, the prolific use of which justifies this definition, the machine gun takes a leading part. While the capacity of this weapon as a man-killing device has never been in doubt, the weight and consequent immobility of the existing models materially reduces their value when used by an attacking force of infantry. The extraordinary efficiency of the best machine guns, when suitably mounted, has encouraged inventors to investigate the possibilities of a lighter form, to be easily carried and operated, when necessary, by one man.

construction are as follows: A detachable magazine (A), loaded with forty-seven cartridges, is attached to a suitable fixing on the barrel near its after end, the first cartridge being fed from the magazine into the firing chamber (B) by the first forward movement of the firing pin, which is, however, arrested before the striker (D) reaches the cartridge unless the trigger (C) is held back. When the trigger (C) is pressed, the striker (D), carried forward by the mainspring (K), explodes the cartridge in the position in the firing chamber (B). Before the bullet leaves the barrel, under the influence of gas pressure, it uncovers a hole (E) connecting the barrel with a cylinder (G) below, lying parallel with it,



SERGEANTS AND STAFF-SERGEANTS OF 67TH BATTALION

PHOTO BY SHAW BROS., VICTORIA

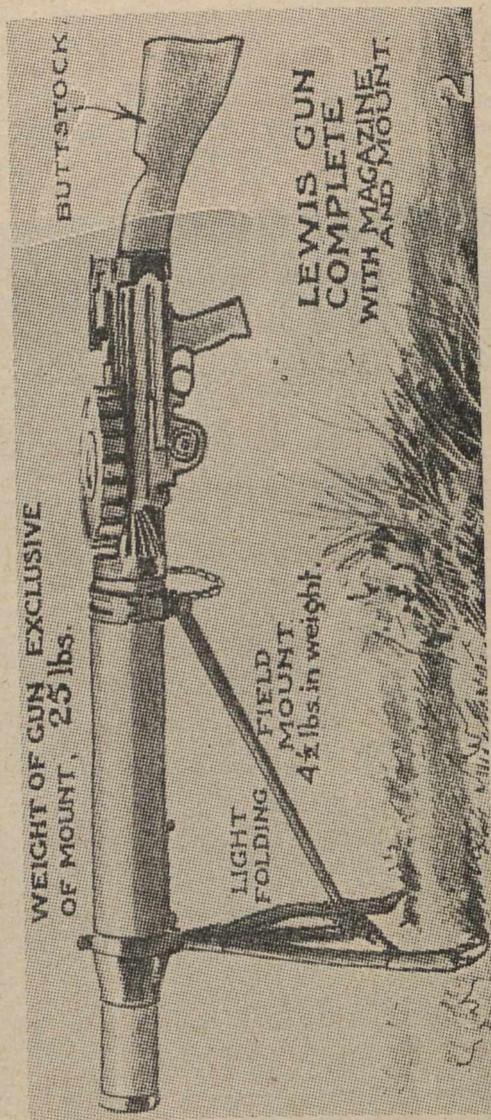
LEFT TO RIGHT—BACK ROW—Provost Sergt. Howard, Sergts. Mirams, Burton, Fernie, Haines, Redgrave, McNeill, Johnstone, Williams  
 SECOND ROW—Sergts. Hyslop, Young, Watson, Armourer-Sergt. Hughes, Sergt. Brasier, Pioneer Sergt. Smith, Sergts. Crossthwaite, Pugh, McKay  
 THIRD ROW—Sergt. Tailor Moffat, Sergt. Tait, Paymaster Sergt. Best, Sergts. Steele, Farmer, Cartwright, Sergt. Shoemaker Hobbs, Sergt. Eddie  
 FOURTH ROW—Bat. Sergt. Cook MacMaster, C.Q.M.S. Gray, C.Q.M.S. Stewart, C.S.M. Johnstone, C.S.M. Henderson, C.S.M. Ware, C.S.M. Duke, C.Q.M.S. Dawson  
 SITTING—O.R.Q.M.S. Nicholls, R.Q.M.S. Macnicol, B.S.M. Boys, Band Sergt. Wishart

Among the best weapons of this type now in use may be placed the Lewis Automatic Machine-Gun, which is largely used in the British and Belgian trenches and with which the "Western Scots" will be armed. This gun may be termed an automatic rifle, and is light enough to be moved by one man, and, weighing slightly less than thirty pounds, can be fired from the shoulder of a powerful man without the support of a tripod or other barrel-rest. The mechanism of this gun is operated by a portion of the propelling gas, and not by the recoil, as in some other makes. The broad principles of its

and a portion of the gas passes into the lower cylinder (G), driving back the piston (H) and, with it, the rod (J) against the pressure of the mainspring (K). The movement of the rod (J) recocks the gun, throws out the exploded cartridge-case and, during the early stage of its return journey, under the mainspring's influence, transfers a live cartridge from the magazine to the chamber.

If the gunner lets go the trigger the firing ceases and the gun remains cocked until the trigger is again pressed. If, however, he keeps a continuous pressure on the trigger the

weapon continues to fire until all the cartridges are exhausted, the rate of continuous fire being as high as 440 rounds per minute, including the interval occupied by replacing empty magazines with loaded ones. The dissipation of the intense heat developed by the almost continuous combustion of explosive charges in the barrel of the machine-gun presents a somewhat difficult problem, and the failure to accomplish this efficiently causes the barrel to become red hot and prematurely explode the incoming cartridge. The barrel of the Lewis is cooled by means of ribs (L), which radiate the heat into the atmosphere, the ribs being placed longitudinally and contained in a steel casing (M), through which the cool air is drawn by the "exhausting" effect of the powder blast at the muzzle end of the casing, in the same way that the air is drawn through the fire-box of a locomotive by the blast of the exhaust steam in the chimney.



The recoil on the Lewis gun is absorbed in a very simple and ingenious manner, the gas from the discharge being directed by means of a cone (P) attached to the muzzle of the barrel proper on the inner surface of the casing (N), so that the friction between the gas and metal casing tends to carry the gun forward with the stream of gas and so counter-balance the force of the recoil acting in the opposite direction. The mainspring (K) is a spring of the type used in a watch, but of much greater power. This spring is coiled up in a circular case (O) attached to the gun just in front of the trigger, in a position sufficiently far from the barrel to be unaffected by the heat, and consequently in no danger of losing its temper from overheating.

The complete cycle of operations in the Lewis gun is as follows: The explosion of the cartridge in the chamber causes a gas pressure by way of the hole (E) on the piston (H). This pressure drives back the piston and its rod (J),

(Continued on Page 5)

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## Machine Gun Patter

A brass band would be a welcome addition to the strength of the Battalion, but just so long as the Machine Gun Harmony Choir is on the job, the left half of the Battalion should worry. Choirmaster John Arbuthnot is preparing an entirely new repertoire of up-to-the-minute musical selections for the next route march, and the irrepressible John admits he will have some welcome surprises for all hands.

The Mark II. Galloway Gun has appeared. It is an improvement on the Mark I. gun in many respects, and moreover, will shoot.

Official Interpreter Valiquet is making rapid progress with his class in French. The choir is already reeling off Habitant songs in regular Quebec patois.

The Machine Gun Section is not exactly superstitious, but still such happenings as that of last Sunday are apt to make them do some serious thinking. When the Anglican church parade fell in there were just thirteen of the faith in line, and the last of the lot to take up his position was the thirteenth member of a family. Then when they marched out on the parade square, the section was squadded with the stretcher-bearers.

The Gun Section failed to secure a copyright on the architectural plan of its marquee, so the Signal Section is quite justified in its attempt at imitation, even though the effort is a crude abortion.

It took Sergt.-Signaller Palston about ten days to make an extra copy of his daily news bulletin for the Gun Section, but it was nevertheless very welcome to the gunners when it did eventually appear on Thursday. The news is secured by arrangement with the Victoria Times, which very kindly supplies to the Battalion a brief summary of the days important telegraphic dispatches.

The section quartermaster, Pte. Peck, found time during his regime as line orderly on Thursday last to dash off the following, which has since been adopted as the official yell of the gunners:

We are only thirty-five,  
But we form a lively hive,  
Machine Gun Section Sixty-seventh.

And when the gun is laid  
We will make the Germans fade,  
Machine Gun Section Sixty-seventh.

Our O.C. is Stan Okell,  
We will follow him to —\*  
Okell! Okell! Okell!

\*Expurgated by the censor.

### PIPE BAND

One of the features of the musical end of the concert given by the Overseas Draft the other night was the playing of the regimental pipe band, under Pipe-Major Wishart. The pipers were on their fettle and played the various marches, strathspeys and reels with a great swing. Sergeant-Drummer Sims was also at the hop of his form, and the gyrations of his drumsticks sent several of the privates back to their quarters feeling quite dizzy.

The band is practicing very hard, and when several additional pipers who are now on their way to join the battalion are taken on strength, the band should prove a great credit to the battalion. Sergeant Johnston, at present in charge of the sergeants' mess, is, in addition, going to take on the position of drum-major for the battalion. He will be out with the band on its next route march.

Two of the band, Ptes. Allen and Patterson, played for the battalion in its victory over Victoria West last Saturday, and are practically assured of permanent billets on the soccer team.

It is said that Major Christie's horse has some very good points about it. Some of the men are unkind enough to say that you can hang a Glengarry on the points.

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# The Western Scot

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 1915

## "THE FIERY CROSS"

In this, the first issue of the camp paper, you will kindly allow me to state the cause of the present European War, as I understand it, for to the minds of not a few, even of those wearing His Majesty's uniform, the cause of this terrible struggle is very nebulous.

Early in the last century Turkey took the provinces of Herzegovnia and Bosnia from Serbia, which, in 1877, led to a war between Russia and Turkey. At the close of this war Austria, by treaty arrangement, took over the provinces, pledging her honor to Turkey that she would not interfere with Turkey's right to exercise sovereignty over them. However, Austria, in 1908, suddenly proclaimed the annexation of these provinces to herself, which was a direct violation of the promise given to Turkey thirty years before. The Government of Serbia protested vigorously against this breach of faith, which nearly brought on a European war seven years ago. Ever since, unfriendly feeling existed between Serbia and Austria.

In June of last year the Archduke Francis Ferdinand, nephew to the Emperor of Austria, and commander-in-chief of the Austrian army, left Vienna, the capital of Austria, to attend the annual review of the army in the province of Bosnia, and while driving through the streets of the capital of that province both the Archduke and the Duchess were shot. A wave of indignation against Serbia passed over Austria, and the flames were fanned by the public press in the most unbridled language; and Austria swore vengeance for the murder of the heir to her throne.

The Servian Government disclaimed any responsibility for the murder, and maintained that it was like the murder of Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley, the act of an assassin, for which he, and he alone, was responsible. It is an historic fact that the crushing of Serbia was for years the policy of Austria, encouraged by Germany, that they conjointly might control the Slavs to the south. This policy was formulated long before the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand. It is unthinkable that for the death of one man, however high and great and noble, Europe should be plunged into a deluge of blood. From Petrograd to Lisbon, from Japan to Morocco, from Berlin to Victoria the baneful influence of this terrible war is being felt.

It is a fact which cannot be denied that the murder of Ferdinand was only a convenient excuse for Austria, encouraged by Germany, to set a match to the war magazine of Europe, an opportunity for which they were waiting and watching since 1908. Although the Servian Government disclaimed all responsibility, directly and indirectly, for the murder of Ferdinand, Austria, with the approval of Germany, sent an ultimatum demanding Serbia to practically admit complicity in a crime she had emphatically disavowed; and what was even more, to renounce her independence and compromise her sovereignty. The offensive terms of the ultimatum were aggravated by a time-limit for reply of only forty-eight hours.

By the advice of Russia, which was not prepared for war, but which, by a treaty made years before, would have to stand by Serbia should she be attacked, Serbia agreed to all the demands of the ultimatum except one, which, if agreed to, would practically lead to abrogating her independence, and even that one demand she offered to submit to arbitration. This Austria, with the knowledge and approval of Germany, refused, and at the expiration of the time-limit, war was declared against Serbia, and Austrian troops immediately began to march across the border into Serbia.

Germany professed to be for peace. But can anyone believe that had she so advised her weaker ally, Austria would not acquiesce? While she professed to be for peace she was flashing the sword in the face of the whole of Europe, and since the battle of Sedan she had been preparing for a European war, the war which is now being waged. Britain, Russia, France and Italy pleaded with Germany to advise Austria to delay hostilities and give an opportunity to amicably settle the grievance. Germany refused to interfere, saying this was a matter between Austria and Serbia, in which no other nation should interpose, knowing, however, full well that by treaty and international relation, as soon as war should be declared against Serbia, Russia would be



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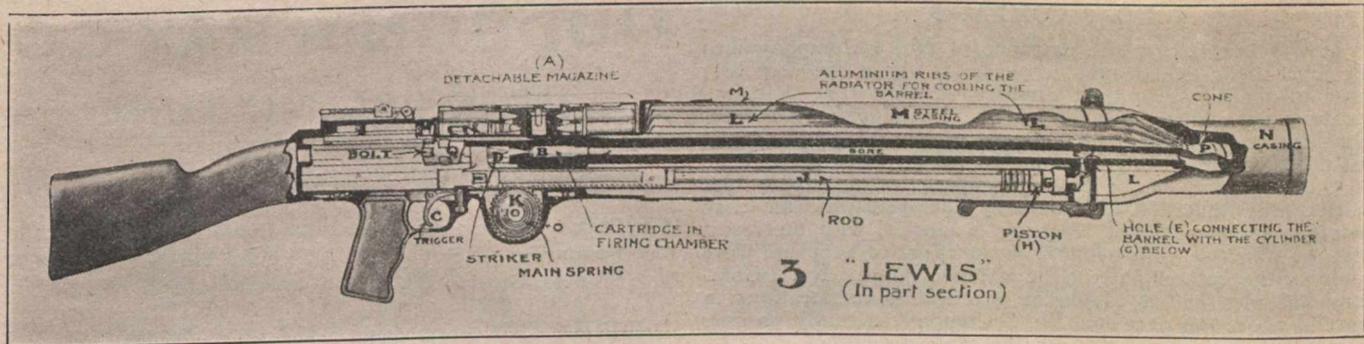
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involved, and probably all Europe. Russia, seeing Austria mobilizing, began also to assemble her army for self-protection. The Kaiser sent an ultimatum to the Czar demanding the demobilizing of his troops, with a time-limit of twelve hours. The Czar refused unless Austria demobilized. The Kaiser would not interfere with Austria, and we know the result. France also, for self-protection, began to mobilize, and because she did so, Germany, to attack her, "let loose the dogs of war," violated the neutrality of Belgium, which she herself, in common with Britain, Russia and France, swore to maintain, an act which brought Great Britain into the war, to fulfil her treaty obligation and to defend the weak against the strong, and liberty against bondage. We are engaged in the greatest struggle the world has ever seen, and we must see it through to a finish. Liberty, civil and religious, with all it means, is in the balance. Honor and freedom are at stake. The sacred possessions gained by our forefathers through centuries are in danger. The foe is using every means to perpetrate the most horrible atrocities, not only against our soldiers, but against the weakest and most defenceless of women and children. To gain the victory the foe will stop at nothing. Let every man do his duty to defeat the enemy and to defend

"The flag that braved a thousand years,  
The battle and the breeze."

ALPHA.

[Through an error the above contribution did not appear, as intended, in the first issue of the "Western Scot."—Ed.]



(Continued from Page 2)

and winds up the mainspring (K) by means of the rack and pinion shown. In its backward course the piston-rod carries with it the bolt (Q), which, when in the firing position, holds the cartridge in the chamber. The bolt (Q) at the moment of firing is firmly locked against the base of the cartridge, but it is caused to make a partial revolution under the influence of the backward motion of the piston-rod, by the engagement of the post carrying the striker with a cam-slot in the bolt (Q). This partial revolution disengages the blocks on the bolt (Q) from corresponding blocks in the fixed portion of the gun body and leaves the bolt free to travel backwards with the piston-rod, and, by means of the extractors fitted in the side of the bolt, to draw the empty cartridge-case out of the chamber until the ejector, by striking it on the left-hand side, can throw it out through the slot in the right-hand side of the action. The ejector is a flat bar curved towards the bolt at both ends, lying alongside the latter in such a position that the bolt, on its passage backward, strikes the after end of the ejector, and, in doing so, throws its front end forward until it strikes the case and so ejects it.

When the piston-rod reaches its extreme backward position the bullet has left the barrel and the gas-pressure on the piston is relieved; the mainspring, therefore, comes into action and the rod travels forward, carrying with it the bolt (Q), the front end of which engages with the after end of a cartridge dropped into the magazine above and carries it forward into the chamber. The bolt, having arrived at its forward position in contact with the cartridge now in the chamber, the piston-rod (and with it the striker and post) still travels forward, and, by the action of the cam-slot in the bolt (Q), causes the latter to be partially revolved, and consequently, securely locked before the striker reaches and explodes the cartridge, which it does at the forward end of the stroke, starting the cycle of operations over again.

The Lewis gun is designed in such a manner that the only tool required to dismantle it completely is an ordinary service cartridge, the point of whose bullet is used to disconnect every portion of the mechanism; and this operation is such a simple matter that the gun can be dismantled, and any small damaged part replaced within five minutes. The weapon takes the service ammunition and its range is similar to the service rifle.

#### THE OLD SCOUT SAYS:

That some of the men stepped into "Trouble" when they "Fell-in" in front of the Grand Stand on Tuesday.

The last time we were out Privates Thomas and Wolf were not identified by the enemy, as they were mistaken for telegraph poles.

That there is enough linguistic talent in the Scouts to form an "Interpreters' Brigade": Privates Mrozowski (Polish and Russian), McCuaig (Scotch), Jorgensen (French, German and Plaats Dutch), Campbell (Yiddish), and W. P. McCarthy (Irish).

That if it is regimental to suit the position to the man in musketry, some of the short men in the middle of the section think the length and time of the pace should be suited to the build of the men as well. Please take notice, you long guys in front.

That No. 102262, Pte. S. Smith, knows whether Cedar Hill is N.E. or N.W. of Mt. Tolmie if somebody else does not.

That after the victory of the 13th inst., when they ambushed the enemy, No. 1 Company thinks the Scouts are all right.

That we hope Private Armstrong will soon have more financial business to transact. It was a fine dinner we had at the Dominion.

That someone did "slip it over" the footballers, but to fill up the postholes was carrying the joke just beyond the bounds of good sports. However, be British and "Play the Game."

That the "apologies of the printer" are due to Mr. Stanley Porter, of the Victoria Book and Stationery Company, for having omitted a credit line under the smaller cuts in last issue, he having supplied the photographs.

That the "Old Scout" will have more to say next week.

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## NO. 3 COMPANY

It was hoped that the entrance of No. 3 Company into the journalistic field would be peaceful, but in the very first issue of the Western Scot appeared a statement that was certainly not conspicuous for truth. The Machine Gun Section insinuated that on the route march to Telegraph Bay it could have returned in good time but for the dilatory methods of Q.M.S. McIntosh, of No. 3 Company. The fact of the matter was that No. 3 Company dropped into an easy swinging stride of about 135 paces a minute, with the result that the Machine Gun Section, in an effort to keep up, were doubling the greater part of the last two miles. No. 2 Company has also had a couple of practical demonstrations in marching, on one occasion No. 3 Company actually passing them when both were going in the same direction.

A War Office publication states that a machine gun should be carried by an intelligent non-commissioned officer or a mule. Some of the boys, who think that they have had more than their share of fatigues, are protesting against this unfair reflection on the mule.

A man of the name of Holt, in an interview in Montreal, stated that Kitchener showed lack of powers of organization, while the methods of the British army were obsolete. Private Quilty asserts that there is a measure of truth in the statement, instancing the present method of forming fours by taking a pace to the rear and a pace to the side. He points out that this movement can be done in one diagonal step—in fact he always does it that way himself.

In battalion drill one thing stands out in strong relief—the splendid step kept by No. 3 Company. How would it be to have a drummer beating time so that the other companies could learn the meaning of quick time? This is not a joke.

Private Gillies must have something on his mind. What has silenced his familiar war-cry, "Are we downhearted?"

Private March says that even if he does look like a gasp, he does not get lit up every night.

## ONE ON THE BOMB THROWERS

Bomb thrower, formerly man of No. — Company: "Sir, I want to leave the bomb throwers."

His Company Officer: "Why? I thought you were quite happy where you were."

Bomb thrower: "Well, sir, it's like this. Mr. Carey, sir, he gives us a bomb with a seven-second fuse attached to it and tells us to count slowly up to five and then throw it as far as we can. Yesterday I counts up to three and Mr. Carey says 'As you were,' and it's more than mortal man can stand, sir."

## "GOOD OLD CARIBOO"

"Where do you men come from?" queried a mounted officer on a route march last week, as he rode by the side of a company of the battalion that was swinging along at a rattling pace, more or less to the temporary disadvantage of other portions of the column. "Cariboo, sir," came back the answer, with emphasis.

## "ON TO BERLIN"

(Tune: "Marching Thro' Georgia.")

Come along and join us, lads, we're going far o'er the foam,  
To fight for King and Country, wherever we shall roam.  
With might for right, we'll join the fight  
The standard to uphold.

While we go marching on to Berlin.

## Chorus:

Hurrah! Hurrah! We are the Western Scots.  
Hurrah! Hurrah! We are sure to make them hop.  
We are the best, and that's no jest;  
We'll put them on the run.  
When we go marching into Berlin.

And our mothers, bless their hearts, they hate to see us go;  
But we, you know, must do our best to meet our country's  
foe.

So with your help, and with your cheers,  
We'll soon be on our way.  
Then we'll go marching into Berlin.

Sept. 24th, 1915.

A.J.M.

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## ATHLETICS

(By Corpl. J. HEWITT)

The Western Scots opened the soccer season a week ago in auspicious fashion when they took the measure of the crack Victoria West team by the narrow margin of a goal. The result was unquestionably a surprise to the critics who had looked for a West victory. The 67th Battalion was admitted to comprise within its ranks many clever soccer players, but the short period the team had been together was figured as fatal to its chances in the opening games of the schedule. Under the circumstances the victory was all the more acceptable, and undoubtedly portends many more to follow. The team showed great strength in defence and succeeded in holding the Wests without a score, a feat that many other teams will have difficulty in accomplishing during the season. Goaltender Riley, late of Port Alberni, was a potent factor in this respect, saving several goals by clever stops. The backs, Ord and Cunningham, did noble work, and so did the half-backs, Okell, McDiarmid and Sherman. The forwards apparently could not get along, and showed the lack of acquaintance. Dagg shaped up well, and accounted for the only goal of the game by cleverly heading in a centre from Paterson. The Wests, so far as play went, had a shade the better of the argument, but their shooting was very inaccurate, so much so that the spectators could not refrain from suggesting that they join the army and learn the mysteries of deflection. The closing moments of the game, when the Wests were attacking fiercely in an effort to equalize, while the Scots were fading away from lack of condition, were quite exciting, and the tackling was quite strenuous, several minor casualties being reported. But the stretcher-bearers were not called into action, fortunately, the game ending without any serious injury, and everybody present, except a few folks from Victoria West who have not yet signed on for King and Country, was happy.

The draft provided a pleasant entertainment last Tuesday evening in the Horse Show Building, when they gave a farewell smoker. Besides a fine musical programme there was a splendid list of boxing events, quite the most ambitious card of the kind yet attempted by the Sixty-seventh. A lot of new performers appeared, and though in some instances the contestants were a trifle shy on technique, they were always willing, and the bouts were most keenly contested. The feature event was between Pte. McHugh (better known to ring followers as Cyclone Scott) and Seaman Russ Leighton, from Esquimalt. The latter was thirty pounds heavier than McHugh, but the latter was in the better condition and the contest was very even. The pair boxed skilfully and hard throughout and the affair was easily the best display of boxing yet seen in the Arena at the Battalion smokers. The spectators were so enthused at the conclusion that they with one accord demanded more. It is likely the two will be brought together again. In this connection it would not be a bad idea if some arrangement was made whereby the Battalion could be provided with a real fistic contest. McHugh is just spoiling for a chance to show his ability over a long route—say, ten or fifteen rounds—and there are a lot of others in the camp who would also like to get into the lime-light under similar conditions.

The Sixty-seventh was to the fore in the B.C. Horse sports held Thanksgiving Day, mainly owing to the clever sprinting ability of Pte. Allan James William Duggan, of No. 4 Company, who won the 100 yards dash in the remarkably fast time of eleven seconds flat on a bad course, finished second in the half-mile after being overcome by a severe cramp, and carried the red and white of the Battalion to victory in the relay, when he made up ten yards in the stretch run, to get the verdict by a yard. Duggan was trained for the events by Pte. William Carlisle, of No. 4 Company, the pride of the regiment, and the latter was naturally immensely pleased with the result of his unique training methods. The Battalion tug-of-war team was undoubtedly overtrained from its strenuous pulling against the old oak tree, and failed in the pinch after being within a few yards of victory early in the fray. Trainer Carlisle will take them in hand for the next event of the kind.

A Battalion Rugby team is to be organized in the near future to compete against teams from the other units in the

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vicinity of Victoria. There is a wealth of material in the Sixty-seventh, and the Battalion will undoubtedly be well represented in this line of sport.

Brains alone may qualify a man for a home guard Battalion, but it takes brawn as well as brains to make advances through the trench-lined fields of Europe. That is why the "Athletes' Battalion," as the Sixty-seventh has been termed, will be heard from when the trip overseas is made. A successful athlete must have brains as well as sinew, and if the measure of success sometimes achieved in this world is a criterion of brain power, then commend us to "brawn."

### WEDDED IN THE LINES

A ceremony of great and pleasing interest took place on the 7th inst. in the lines of the 67th Battalion Overseas Draft, when the marriage of Corpl. H. Bogatin took place, the bride being Miss Coral Fey Thomas, of Tacoma, who was given away by Lieut. Meredith Jones, the bridegroom's best man being Sergt.-Major Duke. The Rev. Dr. Campbell officiated, and addressed a few felicitious remarks to the happy couple, who were heartily congratulated by everyone present and received three rousing cheers as they made their departure.

### SOME SPEED

We learn on excellent authority that the Scout Section is considering the advisability of revising the existing drill to suit the extraordinary conditions under which it works. No longer will such commonplaces as "quick march" and "halt" be used in moving or stopping the Boy Scouts, the order to move off being "Follow me, men," upon which the Scouts will break into a fast gallop without regard to the band, staff, or other encumbrances of a battalion. Double time will be used upon all occasions, and when the men show signs of the least fatigue, short rests, such as scaling a twenty-foot fence or negotiating Mount Tolmie at a steady trot, will be indulged in.

### CARD OF THANKS

The officers and men of the Battalion desire to record their thanks to the undermentioned firms and individual gentlemen, who have so generously assisted in the solution of some of the more or less difficult financial problems incidental to the organization and mobilization of the Western Scots:

#### Contribution for Bagpipes

Committee: W. H. Price, W. J. Cox and F. J. Popham.  
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 Geo. Powell & Sons  
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### SCOUTS AND SCOUTING

Lt.-Col. Lorne Ross has, from his experience gained in the present war, considered it advisable that all of the men in his Battalion should be trained in the art of scouting, and has appointed Lt. M. N. Marsden in charge of a section.

A section of scouts consists of thirty-two men, namely, eight men per company, who will impart as much of their knowledge as possible to the men in their respective companies.

Lt. Marsden was selected as he has had considerable experience as a scout, he having served as scout and despatch rider in the Matabele War of 1896, Mashona War of 1897, and the Boer War, 1899 to 1902.

The qualifications a scout must have are endurance, stamina, cunning and bravery. Many a man will make a good soldier who will never make a good scout.

The lines on which the men will be trained are practical. They will be taught to take advantage of cover, and which cover is most suitable; to see without being seen; to make a field sketch, also to read a map correctly. He will be taught how to use a compass both by day and by night. He will also be shown how to make a comprehensive report on roads, rivers, bridges, etc. Part of his training will include the theory of the rapid destruction of bridges and railways.

In organizing for active work one of the eight scouts in each company is selected and is called scout observer. His place is to be with the officer of the company and assist him in observing and directing fire. Scouts lead the men at night to and from the trenches to their billets in the rear. As despatch runners, etc., their special training enables them to observe quickly

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and immediately grasp the exigencies of a given situation. Thus it can be readily seen that the men's lives very often depend entirely on the scout who is with them. Further articles on the subject of Scouts and Scouting will appear from time to time, which will, no doubt, prove interesting and instructive reading.

### RESULT OF A LAUGH

In the Palace Cinema, Aintree, Liverpool, a soldier, Corporal Robert Beck, of the Army Service Corps, who had been rendered a deaf-mute in Flanders, had his hearing and speech restored. He was watching a humorous picture in which was featured "Billy Ritchie," whose antics made him laugh immoderately. Suddenly he felt a burning in his throat and a curious sensation in his ears. Then he heard a shout, and to his surprise found it was his own voice. He grasped the arm of one of his comrades. "Come on out," he exclaimed, "I've got my voice again."

### UNSUSPECTED TALENT

During an interval in company drill last week a C.O. Company, thinking to give aspiring "rankers" a chance to show their ability, asked for volunteers to do some battalion and company drill. At once stepped forward a smart-looking youth, who proceeded to do "some" drilling that opened the eyes of all present. The young man seemingly had every detail of company and battalion drill at his finger ends, and handled his command with all the nerve and assurance of a veteran, much to the joy and satisfaction of his C.O., who, himself one of the most capable of officers, is quick to appreciate similar merit in others. In answer to a question, the youthful instructor gave Prince George as his former training ground.