

Advent Of Signalling In The Island Militia--Boys In Camp

It has been very plain for the past few days that Charlottetown has been invaded by the militia of the Island—the effect of the holding of the annual camp of training at Victoria Park and Brighton. The arrival of the militia each year is a welcome event to the citizens—and apparently to a good many citizens. The establishment of the camp provides a pleasant and interesting means of spending leisure hours and there is much to observe and learn in watching the men drill under their instructors. The Guardian has already given the list of the Staff Officers and drill instructors on whom devolves the management of the affairs of this miniature military city while the men remain under canvas. It would make too long a story to explain with what completeness every detail is carried out and the perfection of equipment which enables the camp to go on from day to day—the men to be fed, clothed, doctored, drilled, punished, etc. without requiring in any degree the assistance of the citizens.

There are now encamped under the orders of Lt. Col. Moore, the Officer Commanding this military district, some 700 men. Of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies of the 4th Regiment of Canadian Artillery, which are the Charlottetown companies, were under canvas, there would be about one thousand men encamped.

The troops are actually undergoing training at the present time comprise: The Staff at Victoria Park consisting of 6 officers, 8 warrant officers and sergeants, and 8 rank and file, total 22; with 6 horses.

The P. E. I. Light Horse (encamped



LIEUT. W. K. ROGERS, DISTRICT SIGNALLING OFFICER.

at the Exhibition Grounds) commanded by Capt. John A. Macdonald; 8 regimental officers, 7 warrant officers and sergeants, 62 rank and file, total 77; with 68 horses. No. 3 Company 4th Reg. C.A. at (Victoria Park) commanded by Capt. Johnstone; 6 officers, 10 warrant officers and sergeants, 2 buglers, 86 rank and file, total 104. 82 Regiment Abegweit Light Infantry (at Brighton Barracks) commanded by Col. Stewart; 32 regimental officers, 40 warrant officers and sergeants, 24 band, 8

buglers, 29 rank, and file, total 103, with 5 horses.

No. 9 Field Ambulance Unit, commanded by Major McLaughlan, 5 regimental officers, 12 warrant officers and sergeants, 1 bugler, 74 rank and file, total 92 with 10 horses, 3 ambulances, transport and water wagons, etc.

District Signalling Corps under command of Lieutenant Rogers with a nucleus of 6 men.

The visitor to Victoria Park during

Members of the Signalling Class--P. E. I. Militia, 1907.

Photos by Bayr



drill hours will probably have his attention attracted first of all by the squads of signallers, busily engaged under their instructors. This is comparatively a new branch of the local militia, having been established here only last year, when Lt. W. K. Rogers was made district signalling officer, and placed in command of the corps.

Although the actual number of men in this corps is small there is probably no other branch of the army to which is entrusted such important duties. The high value of the services which signallers render to an army in time of war has been abundantly proven on many occasions, and recognized so fully that now no expense is spared in making the signalling branch of the army as effective

as possible. The most costly apparatus is provided and every modern device used in transmitting messages from one point to another. What advances have been made in this line of late years may be guessed when it is said that signalling by heliograph under favorable conditions has been proven effective over distances of seventy miles and over. Signallers are taught to exchange messages by flags and heliographs in day time and by lamps at night. The duties of signallers require that the men be keen and alert and of more than ordinary smartness.

If the troops now in camp were, by orders of the D. O. C., distributed miles apart—say the Light Horse to West

River, the 82d to East River, and the 4th Regiment to Keppoch, it would be possible for the signallers to keep up uninterrupted communication with each other and with the headquarter Staff at Victoria Park, day or night. This shows how well deserved is the signallers' title of "the eyes and ears of the army." The Signalling Corps here are fully equipped with all the latest devices for every means of signalling, the equipment comprising an elaborate lot of instruments. A long and interesting story could be written about the Field Ambulance Unit under Major McLaughlan. Here, in the lines occupied by his men, the Major has practically a self-contained little city of his own—with a magnificent outfit in the way of medical stores, hospital necessities,

and conveniences such as were never dreamed of a few years ago in connection with the army medical corps. Fancy apparatus for generating acetylene gas so that surgical work may be performed in a proper light on the field of action. Yet means for doing this is provided even if the field Ambulance should find itself cut off a thousand miles from anywhere—and this is but a small part of the wonders of the medical establishment of the camp, about which The Guardian will tell its readers later on.

It is very gratifying to know that the signallers attached to the various corps in the district, as shown in the photograph herewith, passed highly creditable examinations. These signallers are drawn from the 82nd Regiment, the 4th Regt. C. A., the Field Ambulance Unit, and the Light Horse, as it is imperative that every branch be provided with signallers, but all these signallers, while the troops are in camp, are under command of the district signalling officer.

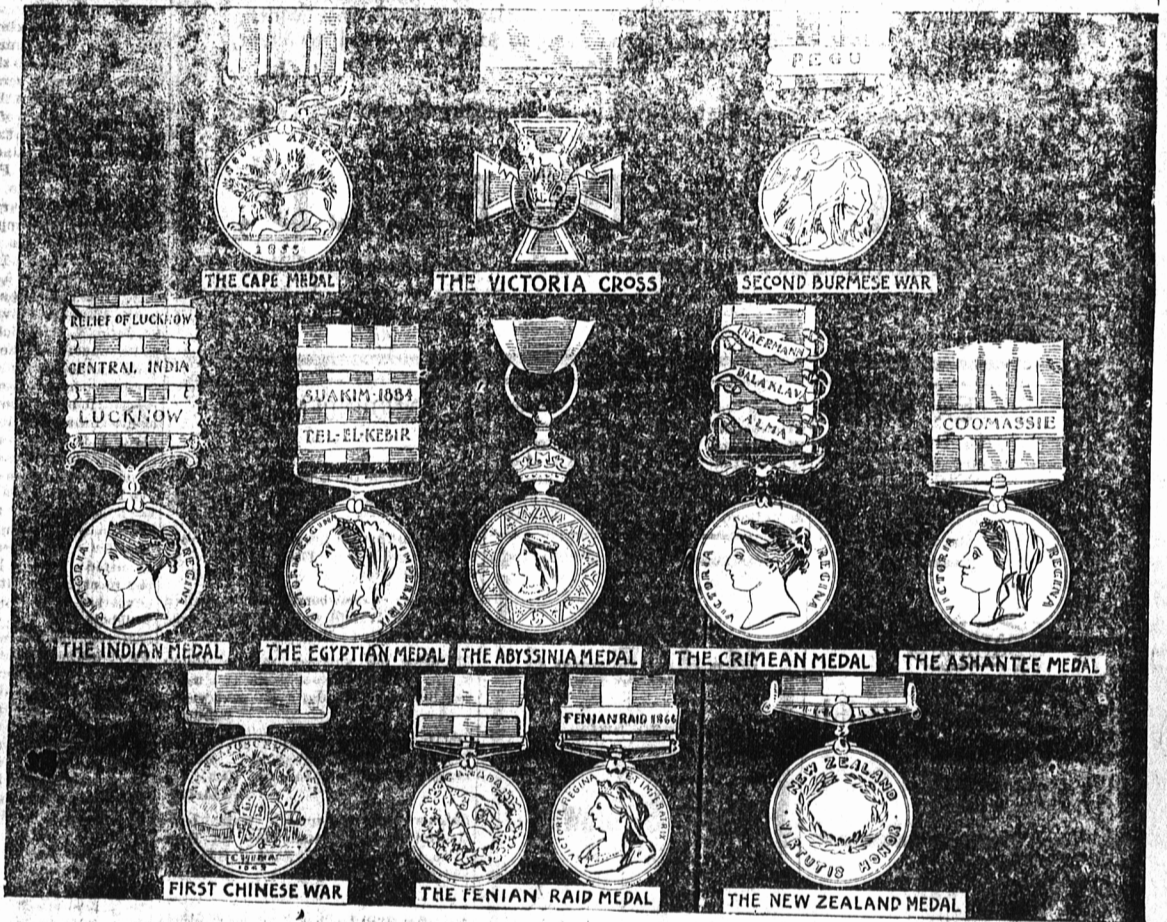
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KING'S COUNTY GUARDIAN

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COMING EVENTS.

Red Rose meeting, Lodge Pelee, Edward O. E. Tuesday, July 9th at 8 o'clock.

DIED.

KALAHER—At Wakefield, Mass., June 23, John C. Kalaher, aged 83 years.

TODD—At Bradalbane June 21st, Maggie, beloved wife of William Todd, aged 50 years.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a practice of St. James' Choir this evening at eight o'clock.

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