

GENERAL OTTER'S LASH FOR MILITARY NEGLECT

**Says the Country Will Have External Foes Sooner or Later
and is Totally Unprepared—Col. Ryerson on
Foreign Element**

Replying to the toast of the "Canadian Militia" at the Royal Grenadiers Sergeants' annual dinner last night, Major-General Sir William Otter made some strong statements in regard to the unprepared state of **Canada** in case of external danger.

"I do not fear danger from within," he said, "because whatever dangers or dissensions may arise they can be put down by the police or permanent corps. I am strongly opposed to bringing the militia into internal troubles.

"I look for danger from without," General Otter continued, "and I am sure that, sooner or later, that danger will come. I will not say from what direction, but I do say that it behooves every one of us to make provision for the evil day.

Says We're Totally Unprepared.

"I can say, notwithstanding any reports that may be published as to the condition of this country for defence, that as we stand at present we are totally unprepared. We are lacking in numbers and we are lacking in material, and if preparation is not made and continued out in a systematic and definite manner we shall some

day or other be caught, and we shall lose our identity as a nation."

General Otter said that as an old campaigner he was at home with the sergeants of the Royal Grenadiers, and he took the opportunity of placing the deficiencies of the defence forces before them. As the country grew so would its dangers grow. "When these dangers arise," he said, "it will be the duty of the Canadian militia to contend with them, and if you are not ready to meet the occasion, then the chances of the disappearance of our flag will be great."

Danger From Foreign Element.

Colonel Ryerson, replying to the toast of "**Canada**," spoke of the danger to which the country was exposed from the importation of so huge a foreign element as were coming to her shores. It was desirable that they should have a strong military force to deal with those dangers. "This country must be British," he said, "and we must make all **foreigners** understand that **Canada** is and will remain British."

Amongst the other guests present were: Lieutenant-Colonels Brock, Gooderham, King, Wallace and Stimson, Majors Butcher and Porter, and numerous Captains, Lieutenants and N.C.O.'s.