

## MAY USE PETAWAWA CAMP NEXT SPRING

The government's decision to increase from 18,000 to 28,000 the number of men under arms in Canada, to send forward successive contingents as quickly as they can be taken care of and to promptly fill up with recruits the vacancies created by the despatch of the forces abroad, carries out the wishes of the authorities of the War Office, while at the same time meeting with the enthusiastic approval of the Canadian people. Orders were issued to-day to prepare generally for the increased enlistment.

The department of militia has not yet considered any general details in connection with the increased establishments. Where the extra regiments will be raised will depend, in a considerable degree, upon the progress reported in the recruiting at the different centers, but the belief is that the enrolment will be more especially in the West and in Ontario.

It is intimated that the decision to so greatly increase the forces to be maintained under arms will mean a reversion in the spring to the plan of mobilization camps. These would be at Valcartier and Petawawa, both of which are now well equipped with all the needed accessories, including ranges.

In outlining the latest schemes of augmented mobilization the government has acted in full co-operation with the War Office. The plan means that by early in the New Year counting the forces now at Salisbury Plain, the second contingent, being raised and the arrangements for successive drafts, 108,000 will be under arms. As soon as the second instalment goes in January a third contingent will be got in readiness and this will be despatched in March or April.

It is apparent that the call for recruits will be steady and constant, for the experience of the war has shown that reinforcements are required at the wholly unusual extent of 25 per cent. per month, once an expeditionary force goes into action. This applies more especially to infantry units. Thus, when in the space of a few months Canada has 50,000 men in action, reinforcements for them alone will be called for at the rate of 12,500 per month.

There is every reason to believe that a good part of these mounted forces will be detailed for service in Egypt, where units of that classification are required more especially than in the European theatre of operations. The renewed calls for men impose a great obligation upon Canada to give more and still more of its brawn and sinew, but there are the most hopeful indications of the response being fully equal to every successive requirement of the common cause.