

THE NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE.

To the Editor of The Globe: Will you allow me a few words in your paper re "the need of trained men for the front?" In your editorial of this subject you say "there are 1,200 of the best & of most experienced men, horsemen and rifle shots in America among the Northwest Mounted Police fairly itching to get into action"; that "from there could be taken 1,000 men on a week's notice for active service," and "that the ranks could be filled with partially trained men who could speedily learn the routine of Mounted Police work."

There is just where you are mistaken. These 1,200 men are in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan—say, 600 in each approximately. The matter of learning the duties of these vast territories in a few weeks would be impossible.

As to our fearing a "German raid from the western States," that is not in our reckoning at all. But, Mr. Editor, how would you like to live in a Province with 70,000 of these foreigners scattered all over its broad acres and practically no protection save "infant riflemen," as you suggested? To be a Mounted Policeman of value takes years. He must know the country as he knows his alphabet, and this is a matter of acquirement, which entails more than a few days of work. I am no politician. I have no inclinations or declinations either way. One set of men is just as bad as another when they get into politics, as you well know. But to suggest such a thing as the leaving us almost absolutely unprotected among these hordes of foreign-born men after taking from us more in proportion to our population than any other Province for the war is atrocious.

We are assured if "sent to the front these men would serve with honor to themselves and profit to the Dominion and the Empire." There is no doubt of it at all, but they serve equally "who only stand and wait," and perhaps serve Canada and the Empire more perfectly in keeping peace within our borders.

These views are not given in any partisan spirit, but the good of Canada will be best conserved by these men standing in their post.

Westerner.

Calgary, Feb. 18.