

# GENERAL LESSARD COMPLIMENTS 51ST REGT. LAST NIGHT

Made Inspection at Armouries With Major Pickford and Was Satisfied.

Major-General F. L. Lessard, C.B., D.O.C. of the Second Military District, complimented the members of the 51st regiment on the showing made at the inspection at the armouries last evening. In his address to the troops after the inspection he said that he considered that for a new regiment, which had been in existence such a short time, they had done wonders.

The men, he said, showed every sign of intelligence, and with a little more drilling would make as fine a showing as any regiment in the service. It is not often, he continued, that such a fine body of men is got together. He also spoke well of the work of the officers.

A large crowd of citizens gathered at the rink to witness the inspection, and the regiment was drilling from about eight o'clock. The men stationed at the ship canal and the wireless station, who were not on duty, were present, and six companies paraded. Great progress has been made in the drill, and the showing last evening was very creditable, not to the men but to their instructors as well.

Major-General Lessard, accompanied by Lt-Col. S. L. Penhorwood and Major Pickford, arrived about nine o'clock, and was greeted with the proper military salute. The march past was well executed, and the companies which were put through a number of movements showed up well. The company from the ship canal, which has had probably more drilling than the others, did particularly well.

The review lasted about an hour, and was closed with three cheers for General Lessard and for the King.

Yesterday afternoon the general inspected the defences and camps around the city, and spoke favorably of the condition he found them in.

At the canal, it is recorded, a rather amusing incident occurred. General Lessard spoke to one of the sentries and asked him what he would do in case a man refused to answer his challenge and kept on going.

"I'd shoot the son-of-a-gun," the sentry is reported to have replied, and the general added, "You're all right, my man, you're all right."

General Lessard has an aversion to being interviewed, but speaking to a representative of the Star today said that he was very much pleased with the condition of the regiment here.

The general was entertained at dinner last evening by Mr. A. C. Boyce, M.P., and after the inspection he was a guest at the Sault Ste. Marie Club. Today he visited the Lake Superior Paper Company's plant and the plant of the Algoma Steel Corporation.