

# ROYAL DUKE REVIEWS

## TROOPS OF THE WEST

### March Past Greatest Spectacle in Military Annals of Winnipeg.

### STIRRING STREET SCENES

### His Royal Highness Expresses Keen Satisfaction at Appearance of Gallant Soldiers.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Canada's governor-general, saw 5,661 soldiers armed and accoutred, clean of limb, smart of appearance and splendidly trained, pass before him in review yesterday afternoon, presenting an exhibition of the second offering made by the Dominion to the motherland in her hour of need. Fifty thousand people lined Main street and literally jammed the portion from Portage to the city hall, surging around the reviewing base on the east side of Main street at the intersection of McDermot avenue. On the west side, well in the centre of the road, stood the bands of the 27th, 28th and 32nd battalions, and the pipers of the 43rd. Each played in turn as the long line of soldiers in column of route swung past the Duke of Connaught, every man in step, every man spick and span, his bayonet gleaming, his buttons shining in the bright sunlight, and his whole body at a tension which showed the pride each one felt in that which he was today doing for his country.

#### A Magnificent Sight.

It was a sight to stir the blood, yet through it all ran a feeling of pity and sadness for, as one woman on the reviewing base put it—"How magnificent, how inspiring, yet how sad, for of all this flower of the great wide open west, all this fine manhood, there will be many a one, there must be many a one will be mourned, and that fact should be faced."

This feeling must have permeated the vast concourse which was out, for there was but little cheering, but little applause, just a deep silence save for the grinding snow under the soldiers' feet, which would be broken occasionally by some high pitched nervous voice, heard above the tramp of the troops as it called out loud the name and number of the regiment, a voice accentuated by the silence, a silence at least as far as voice and cheer and applause was concerned. Yet no one could deny but that all realized the potential magnetism of the mass of troops, and all would admit that the blood ran faster and the pulse quickened as battalion after battalion swept by.

#### A Remarkable Gathering.

A remarkable gathering had congregated around the Duke of Connaught as he stood with Major-General Steele, Inspector-general of the western force, on a thick Persian rug which had been laid. To the left of the two soldiers was placed a tall flag staff which was made in sections to fit together and be easily carried around. From the top of this staff floated the Royal Standard, and under it stood two men whose names are bywords among the public—the one, the governor-general of Canada, the uncle of the present king of England, the brother of the late King Edward, a field marshal, commander-in-chief of the British army, a soldier if there ever was one and whose active service entitles him to the many decorations worn at his breast, but hidden yesterday by the Persian lamb collar of the military coat. The other a taller, heavier figure, the figure of the man who has built up the wonderful body of men of the west which passed under their eyes yesterday, truly emblematic of the empire and the Dominion under the flag of the great empire.

#### All Prominent People.

Slightly behind the Duke and General Steele stood the guests of the regal party: Sir Douglas and Lady Cameron, Sir Rodmond Roblin, Mrs. Homer Dixon, Major Count de Bury and de Bocarme, the lieutenant-governor's A.D.C. Beyond these again were massed other well known society women and prominent soldiers and citizens, Hon. Dr. Montague, Mayor Waugh, Lieut.-Col. McLean, Lieut.-Col. Correll, Lieut.-Col. I. Stevenson, O.C. of the 1st C.M.R.'s, now mobilized at Brandon, who with Captain Laws were the only officers of that command to be in the city for the review. Mrs. Waugh was in the mayor's car

to the rear, where there were parked several cars, all containing invited guests to the reviewing base. Mrs. Montague, Mrs. Price Montague and a host of well known people filled the cars in the too small space which had been reserved for them. The moment the Ducal party arrived no less than 15 professional photographers, who did not include two motion picture machines and their staff, set to work, and the click of the cameras of the numerous amateurs was heard on all sides. In all probability the governor-general appreciated this fact, for he stood like a statue for several minutes as the photographers got to work ready to flood the city with picture postals of the greatest military operations ever held in Winnipeg.

#### Inspects at 3 p.m.

Leaving government house where he was entertained to luncheon, the Duke and his staff motored over to the south end of Main street near the C.N.R. station. Here the contingents for the review were drawn up four deep in line of mass, stretching the full length of Main street from the bridge almost to Portage avenue. In mass formation they looked like a forest of sturdy brown trees. Arrived at the south end of the line the Duke received a general salute, and at once commenced his inspection. He devoted most of his time to the battalions he had not inspected during the morning, these being the 27th, 43rd and 44th, as well as the A.M.C. and A.S.C. His inspection commenced at 3 o'clock and took well over half an hour, bringing the march past a good deal later than was intended. The crowded condition of the south end of Main street, where the dense crowd had been allowed too close to permit of the battalions getting away in column of platoon 50 wide as intended, also made for delay. Like a big boa constrictor the line of people swelled first forward then backwards as the police tried to widen the road. The undulations of the thousands of spectators packed so closely offered an extraordinary sight, and only when the soldiers commenced to move after having formed in column of four at a moment's notice as though to press through the line, did they fall back.

#### Splendid Marching Past.

When they did get started the march past went with a swing that was remarkable both for its precision and its speed. The bands of the 27th, 28th and 32nd all played, while the Duke inspected their battalions, and the strains of God Save the King greeted his arrival, and the pipers of the 43rd skirled away merrily when he reached their lines. The inspection given the men was a close one. The Duke scanned the faces and the uniforms of every man and every unit. When approached with a request during the day that he give an interview to the press of Winnipeg, as well as to those who had come from as far as New York to interview him, the answer sent back was: "His Royal Highness has come to inspect the troops and that alone." That was apparently the spirit in which he set about his work, for he did inspect them thoroughly. The inspection concluded, the Duke, with General Steele and his personal staff, consisting of Lieut.-Col. Stanton, Major Duff and Captain the Hon. P. Legh, drove quickly to the reviewing base.

Here the crowd was terrific. The police were unable to cope with it. Three women fainted as they were forced to and fro awaiting the Duke's arrival, while the police with all their weight tried to hold back the mass of people. Now and again two or three women would break away from the press, and their escape would be greeted with cheers. As soon as the police had the line back at one place it would bulge out at the other, and so the game of see-saw went on until the ducal motor appeared. That was a signal for order, and the thousands as with one mind kept still while H.R.H. took his stand on the carpet set for him.

#### Salute by the Duke.

A faint cheer arose from those in the immediate neighborhood as the Duke stepped out of the car with his staff, which he answered by swinging round, facing the crowd, and bringing his hand up to the salute, where he held it for two or three minutes. At this cheers again rang out, but died away as the head of the column of troops appeared. One by one the bands of the various battalions arrived. The first to take its place was the 27th, then came the 28th, then the 32nd. Each one took its stand on the west side of the street facing the reviewing base. Regimental marches and patriotic airs were played as the troops passed, and the music only ceased when in the distance came the skirl of the bagpipes as they marched at the head of the 43rd a battalion composed of many of the 79th Cameron Highlanders. Arrived at the base, the pipers fell out and piped their regiment past the Duke.

#### Many Officers Mounted.

All commanding officers, staff officers, majors, adjutants and assistant adjutants were mounted, and if the mounts were inclined to be restive for the occasion. It did not in the least disconcert the western horsemen, who can show the whole world how to ride.

After a long, long wait came the shout, "Here they come!" and, sure enough, they were coming. Everyone forgot they were cold, everyone forgot the long delay. The soldiers were coming. Lieut.-Col. H. N. Ruttan, mounted, appeared first, followed by Major F. J. Murray, D.S.O., on his left, and Major A. C. Gray on his right, both to the rear. Then came Brigadier Lieut.-Col. Ducharme, commanding the 5th Artillery brigade, made up of the 17th, 18th and 19th field batteries, ammunition column, and sectional ammunition park. Next came Winnipeg's new brigadier, Lieut.-Col. H. D. B. Ketchen, especially well mounted. The mount was well handled, but kept the brigadier busy when he passed the reviewing point, though in spite of cavortings and sundry dashes at the band the brigadier was all the while at ease, and never faltered in his salute.

#### How the Soldiers Passed.

##### 5th Artillery Brigade.

Lieut.-Col. Ducharme in charge.  
17th Field Battery—Major French.  
18th Field Battery—Major Bishop.  
19th Field Battery—Lieut. Lindsay.  
Ammunition column.  
Sectional ammunition park.  
Brigadier Lieut.-Col. H. D. B. Ketchen, commanding 6th Infantry brigade.

##### 27th Battalion.

Officer commanding, Lieut.-Col. Snider; second in command, Major Mackay. Adjutant, Capt. F. S. Steele.

##### 28th Battalion.

Officer commanding Lieut.-Col. Embury; second in command, Major R. Parsons, Major Ross. Adjutant, Capt. Bruce.

##### 32nd Battalion.

Officer commanding, Lieut.-Col. Cowan; second in command, Major C. D. McPherson, Major F. Williams. Adjutant, Major A. C. Garner.

##### 43rd Battalion.

Officer commanding, Lieut.-Colonel Thompson; second in command, Major Osler.

##### 44th Battalion.

Officer commanding, Lieut.-Colonel Wayland; second in command, Major F. A. Osborne. Adjutant, Capt. A. L. Laughlin.

#### Army Service Corps.

Officer commanding, Lieut.-Col. A. H. Correll.

#### Army Medical Corps.

Officer commanding, Major Webster.

Police.

### Duke's Car Jammed.

The march past took 40 minutes instead of about ten as would have been the case had it been in column of platoons. However, the alteration did not in any way detract from the splendid appearance of the march. It was 4.20 by the time the double line of police closed in behind the last unit opposite the base, but even so they failed to stop the boiling crowd which overrode them and swept forward crowding close in on the car of the Duke and his staff, which was thus blockaded by the mass of people for several minutes before a road could be cleared for it to drive back to Government house, where the Duke presented the championship shield given by himself to the most efficient body of cadets in any province of the Dominion and which was won by the Manitoba Highland cadets last summer. This presentation having been made, the Duke then returned to his car to prepare for the dinner at Government house.

### Roofs and Telegraph Poles Peopled.

The portion of Main street through which the troops passed was gaily decorated with bunting, all the stores had some kind of display for the occasion and flags flew everywhere. The roofs of the buildings presented a unique appearance for they too, were crammed with people, men and women, who found here a great point of vantage from which not only to see the march-past but also the Duke of Connaught and the various celebrities.

Practically every telephone pole in the neighborhood was black with youths and even those of more mature age who had climbed up, finding these the best places possible amid the thick crowd and here, in spite of the cold, the human flies hung and stayed until the last soldier had passed. Opposite the Dominion bank some more adventurous spirits were actually sitting on the high power city wires and several of the visitors with the ducal party commented on the danger they were running. The police ordered some down, but it was useless, they would not come down and only sneered at the fur-coated officers.

### Almost a Riot.

Half an hour before the governor-general arrived at the saluting base the crowd had become restless and pressed forward heavily. The police at once stepped forward and forming a close line tried to force them back. Several women were severely handled in the rush, and rough tactics which followed, as no discrimination was made as to sex by the police, who realized that the crowd was fast getting beyond them. The police finally found they were unable to cope with the numbers and the weight, and a large number of soldiers who were not in the review were called in to assist them. Had not the Duke arrived when he did, it is doubtful if the police and their amateur assistants could have handled the crowd, and a nasty riot might have ensued. For some reason ropes had not been put across the west side of the street far enough and with the thousands lined, yards deep, across the roadway the futility of getting them back was obvious.

### All Cars Jammed.

It took some twenty minutes for most of the cars which were parked behind the reviewing base to get clear of the crowd, which melted away with marvellous rapidity after they got started.

Lieut.-Colonel Ketchen, seen last night, stated he had not a regimental parade statement ready at the moment, but signified that the actual number in each command would be forthcoming this afternoon. The actual number of men in the parade, counting everyone, was 5,661. This, of course does not include all the soldiers in the city, but only those who are going away with the second and third contingents.

The Corps of Guides which has been acting as the Intelligence department of the district since mobilization, were busy men yesterday and a close watch was kept on the people for fear of some crank annoying the Duke. Besides these officers all the city plain clothes men, several special constables and a number of secret service men who accompany the Duke, were around him unobtrusively on all sides.

### Six Arrests of Austrians.

On Sunday afternoon six Austrians whose actions had given rise to suspicion were rounded up and held pending the departure of the governor-general and his party.

Beyond the fact that the formation for the march-past was altered, not a hitch or an error occurred in the actual march past. The men were seen at their best and they marched well. The mounted officers were all thorough horsemen, and though many of their mounts were green there was no difficulty in this connection. Salutes were properly made, right distances were kept, and the boys well earned the remark of the Duke and members of the party: "They are a fine body of men."

### The Biggest Ever.

This closed the largest review ever seen in Winnipeg. A review that carried with it the ponderous weight of the meaning of war, it brought home to Winnipeg and to Western Canada how near home the war has now reached, for many a smiling face of yesterday, a face that glowed with pride, will be missing when the final "Cease Fire" is sounded.

### Duke Compliments the 27th.

Owing to the Duke of Connaught being so busy inspecting the headquarters and barracks of the different regiments stationed in the city yesterday, he found it impossible to visit the old Agricultural college, the quarters of the 27th battalion. At the close of the review of that battalion, however, before the march past, he sent for the commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Snider, and complimented him on the excellent showing that his men had made, stating that he did not expect to see such fine troops during his visit. The 27th battalion, in all respects, did credit to this city, the name of which the battalion takes with it.

### Presents Shield to Cadets.

The Duke of Connaught made the presentation of the governor-general's challenge shield to the officers of the Winnipeg Highland Cadet battalion, at Government House yesterday after returning from the review of the troops. This shield is for annual competi-

tion, open to all the provinces of Canada. It was won by Manitoba in 1914, and in turn by the Winnipeg Highland Cadets as the most efficient cadet battalion in the province.

His royal highness congratulated the cadet officers on their fine record, and wished them further success.

Lieut. W. McLandriss, on behalf of the battalion, received the shield in the name of the officers of the Winnipeg Highland Cadets.