

# PETAWAWA UNFITTED FOR INFANTRY TRAINING

## 14th Regiment Not Likely To Go There Again

## SERIOUS WATER FAMINE

WAS EXPERIENCED BY THE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS.

Who Experienced Arduous Time—

Petawawa is Just Heat and Sand, and No Place for Troops Other Than Artillery and Cavalry.

On Thursday morning, shortly after eight o'clock, the 14th regiment returned from Petawawa camp after an experience unique for the local riflemen, and at times arduous in the extreme. With other infantry and rifle corps in this part of the dominion, the 14th participated, along with the artillery and cavalry, in the manoeuvres at Petawawa camp during the past few days. The "pow-wow" terminated with the "march past" the Duke of Connaught, Lord Brooke, and Col Sam Hughes on Wednesday noon. Hon. R. L. Borden, premier of Canada, was one of the "powers that be" that witnessed the manoeuvres and review of the troops.

Petawawa is undoubtedly a magnificent training ground for artillery and cavalry, or any mounted branch of the service. But it was generally conceded, not only by the Kingston regiment, but by all units of foot soldiers under canvas, that it is out of the question for them. It is heat and sand.

While the N. C. O's and men that may be termed the backbone of the 14th declare that they would return to Petawawa next year, it is doubtful if the officers would take the battalion there again without serious consideration and the assurance that the arrangement for the comfort of the corps would be greatly improved upon.

### A Water Famine

There was a water famine among the foot soldiers in the brigades in which the 14th was included, which marched from bivouack at Corry Lake against the brown troops approached from Petawawa. At the Corry Lake bivouack into which the 14th marched on Monday evening, the men were advised by the medical officer, to refrain from drinking the water. The majority of them did so, with the result that the columns started out Tuesday morning, the 14th acting as the advance guard of one, without much water in the water bottles carried by officers and men.

It was a heavy tramp for some four or five miles through the sand before fighting began. A couple of hours later when the 14th, 43rd, (of Ottawa), 47th, 49th, and other regiments, marched into the place of bivouack for Tuesday night, near Thistle, (the new military cavalry camp), there was a mad rush for the ther was a mad rush for the few water wagons that had been supplied. The men of the different regiments fought to fill their bottles to quench their thirst. Officers endeavored to control the "stampede." Men who could not get near the wagons for the crush had to wait for some time before their thirst was quenched unless they were served by their comrades who had been fortunate enough to get to the taps. Finally water wagons became more numerous and the distribution of the "refresher" was better organized.

Certainly the greatest luxury in the standing camps is the shower baths, for which those at Thistle this year Major H. T. Hughes, the command engineer of the division, is largely responsible. Officers and men of the 14th and other regi-



**KING ALEXANDER OF SERBIA**  
The new king, formerly crown prince, who ascends the throne although his father, the old king, still lives.

ments certainly enjoyed these. They walked from their bivouack of Tuesday night to Thistle camp for this luxury. And the baths are also at Petawawa camp. The greatest complaint of the men came on account of the water famine.

### Some Groundless Gossip.

There was a lot of groundless talk at camp and in Kingston since the regiment returned, about the 14th being termed "quitters," "falling down on the job," etc., and one even went so far as to say that Major H. J. Dawson, commanding, even went so far as to tender his sword to the minister of militia. The latter, at any rate, is without foundation.

The fact of the matter is that the 14th went to Petawawa with the assurance that they would have a fixed camp, but learned upon arrival there on Sunday night that the regiment was ordered out on the route march to Corry Lake, eleven miles distance, early Monday morning. Later the commanding officer was given permission to remain over until Tuesday morning. But on Monday it was decided to proceed at once to the bivouack at Corry Lake. This slighting report about the Kingston volunteers having "fallen down on the job" had something to do with the decision to leave the camp at Petawawa before Tuesday. The regiment was paralysed and with one voice declared that it would do the march, and, accordingly, the riflemen, leaving the brass band behind to guard the camp, left early in the afternoon. It was a long tramp, eleven miles through the sand, but the 14th accomplished it in a little over three hours, without a man dropping out. This was a great deal better time than most, if not all, other columns. It was a very dirty looking corps that marched into the bivouack, the column, followed by the

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## HUERTA ARMY ROUTED IN LAST DITCH STAND

Villa Takes Zacatecas City—His  
Rebel Army Admit The Loss  
Of 2,200

El Paso, Tex., June 25.—Zacatecas was captured Tuesday evening by Villa's forces, according to an announcement by Colonel Ornelas, military commander of the Juarez garrison.

The loss to Villa's troops was reported at Juarez as having been 2,200 in killed and wounded. The federal loss was not given.

# PETAWAWA UNFITTED FOR MILITARY TRAINING.

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transport waggons, having tramped through the sand inches deep.

Upon the arrival at Corry Lake there was a mad dash for the water, which was dirty, and hundreds of other troops were bathing as well. Many of the men bathed in what a native of the "Old Ontario Strand" would call mud holes, after having been used to the great lakes and rivers. But they were greatly refreshed.

The rations and messing conditions were quite satisfactory. Wednesday was a comparatively easy day for the 14th. The fight continued, but the "cease fire" had been sounded before the 14th and the regiments in its brigade had gotten well into the firing line. A cavalry charge from the rear was repulsed, part of the local battalion being in the engagement.