

# LEADING CITIZENS ADVISE ON RECRUITING

## Territorial System is Suggested for Canada

### A.S.C. DRAFT GOES EAST

**Thirty-one Recruits Attested—Graded System of Training Recommended by Col. Marlow—Buffs. and Beavers Learn Trench Warfare.**

In the course of a few days leading citizens of Toronto will be summoned to a conference on recruiting. Four or five thousand men will be called for during the next few weeks and the military authorities believe some new system of getting recruits will have to be introduced, since at the present rate of recruiting it would take over a year to raise the number required. One plan suggested is to call for men for a certain battalion instead of recruiting battalions, splitting them up on arrival overseas and sending the men to the front as reinforcements to some battalion they have never heard of before.

Another plan which probably will receive consideration is on the lines of the British system, known as the territorial system. By this method the territory which raises the original battalion is expected to keep the unit up to strength. The 15th Canadian Battalion, for instance, was composed chiefly of members of the 48th Highlanders, and that Toronto Scottish regiment, under the proposed territorial system, would be expected to keep the 15th Battalion supplied with reinforcements.

#### Recruiting Would Improve.

It is believed by members of the Headquarters Staff that recruiting in Canada would improve if the volunteers knew what battalion they would fight with when the period of training was completed. Also the various militia regiments would be making history. An effort would be made to name the battalions now at the front after the home regiments by which they were recruited. The 15th Battalion, for example, might be officially known as the Toronto Scottish. The 8th Battalion, which is made up largely of members of the 90th Regiment of Winnipeg, might be called the Winnipeg Rifles.

The conference, which may be held one day next week, probably will be attended by the chief staff officers, officers of the various battalions needing recruits, representatives of the Recruiting Depot, the Board of Trade and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

#### Thirty-one Recruits.

Thirty-one recruits were attested yesterday out of forty-nine volunteers. They were distributed as follows: 108th, three; 239th, one; 67th Battery, one; 69th Battery, one; Army Service Corps, eight; Artillery, seven; Signallers, two; Can. O. D. C., one; Army Medical Corps, three; Military Police, one; Engineers, two; Guard, one.

Men are now being recruited in Toronto to reinforce the two well-known cavalry units, the Strathcona Horse and the Fort Garry Horse. These are being furnished by the Depot Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles. Comfortable barracks, cavalry training and a quick service overseas are three of the many attractive features of their recruiting appeal. The Toronto office is at 89 King street west.

#### Army Service Draft Departs.

An Army Service Corps draft of 101 men and four officers left late last night for an eastern training camp, there to complete its training before leaving for Britain. The draft included sixty-four mechanical transport men, twenty-six supply men, and ten horse transport men, and was in charge of Lieut. G. W. Peck of Montreal, Lieut. A. H. Macabe of Toronto, Lieut. H. M. Barton of Ottawa, and Lieut. J. V. Drynan of Toronto.

One of the interesting announcements in camp orders yesterday was that Scandinavians may be enlisted of their own free will in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, but they must be able to speak and understand English or French, and special care must be taken, the order adds, that enemy aliens do not pass themselves off as of Scandinavian origin.

#### Gradual Training.

It is understood that Colonel Marlow, Assistant Director of Medical Services in the Toronto Military District, will recommend graded physical training for troops during the first three months of their service, in the hope that this plan will lessen wastage, which has reduced the strength of many local battalions very materially of late. The Col. pointed out yesterday that many of the men recently discharged as physically unfit were

apparently fit at the time of enlistment. If they had been graded and trained according to their physical condition they might have been made quite fit in the course of a few months. Colonel J. L. Potter, head of the Medical Services, will be in the city to-day when the plan proposed by Col. Marlow probably will be discussed. Col. Potter will visit the hospitals and convalescent homes of this district.

#### Sergt. Price's Death.

Investigation yesterday showed that Sergt. F. R. Bonamy Price of the Army Service Corps, who died at the Base Hospital on Sunday, succumbed to a form of meningitis which is not contagious.

The next artillery course will commence at the Royal School of Artillery, Kingston, Ont., on the 15th of January, 1917.