1911.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS

(REPORT ON THE).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The COMMANDANT OF THE NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS to the Hon. the MINISTER OF EDUCATION, Wellington.

SIR.---

Wellington, 11th July, 1911.

I have the honour. pursuant to subsection (2) of section 36 of the Defence Act, 1909, to submit the following report on the Junior Cadets of New Zealand for the year ended 31st March, 1911.

The following summary, compiled from returns received from approximately 2,000 schools (public and private) in the Dominion, will show that the total strength of the Junior Cadet Force (including Scout Cadets) is 29,067, which is an increase of nearly 5,000 on the number for 1910.

The Scout Cadets do not include any units belonging to the Boy Scout organization ; they comprise patrols formed at small schools where it would be difficult to work Cadet detachments. Their training is similar to the Boy Scouts' training. The details of strength are as under :---

						Number of Units.	Number of Officers.	Number of Cadets and Officers.
Junior Cadet officers	•••			• •	• •		913	••
Scoutmasters	••	••	••	••	••	•••	320	••
Junior Cadet units	••	••	••	••	•• :	490	••	••
Scout Cadet		••	••	• •	••	645	••	••
., Cadets (all ra	nks)	••	• •	• •	••	••	••	22,939
,. Scont Cadets	(all ranl	(s)	••	••	•••	••	••	6,128
Totals		•••	•••	• •	••	1,135 1,013	1,233 1,100	29,067
Totals for 1	909-10	••	••	•••	••	1,010	1,100	24,300
Increase 19	1011	•••			••	122	133	4,767

On the coming into force of the Defence Act, 1909–10, providing for the compulsory training of Junior Cadets, which necessitated the taking-over of all assets and lawful liabilities by the Government, it was found that a very large amount of the equipment in the possession of Cadet units was worn out, in some cases being as much as from eight to ten years old, and required replenishing, in addition to which each new unit as it was formed had to be fully equipped. Consequently, 10,000 sets of equipment (including model rifles, belts, and haversacks), 10,000 caps, and 6,000 jerseys had to be purchased during the year.

Owing to the large amount of work at Headquarters due to the reorganization, re-equipment, the taking-over and adjusting the assets and liabilities of the Public-school Cadets, which existed prior to the adoption of obligatory training, I found it impossible to do much inspection-work during the transitory period, which may be said to have continued during the whole year. Wherever I did go, however, I found the utmost enthusiasm shown by all ranks, and, generally speaking, satisfactory work being done by officers, non-commissioned officers, and Cadets. I was able to advise many schools in the selection of sites for miniature ranges, and was also able to settle many minor difficulties on the spot.

Everywhere there was a keen desire for instruction. The Staff Officer and nine Instructors provided for on last year's estimates were appointed during the year, and have been doing good work. The Instructors were put through a short refresher course before taking up their duties at the different centres where they are now stationed. They, however, can only instruct at schools at and near their headquarters; therefore, in order to get at the country officer, three Officers' Instruction Camps were held at Auckland, Wellington, and Timaru respectively. These lasted for a week each, and were widely made use of, there being an average attendance of thirty-five to forty officers at each. The result of this initial experiment was such a success that these camps will be held again in 1911.

As in the previous year, no camps for Junior Cadets were held during the year; neither is it intended that Junior Cadets shall in future be taken into camp for training.

Already several Education Boards have arranged to collect their teachers at different centres in order that they may receive the benefits of a systematic course of military-physical training, and have asked for the use of the Instructors for that purpose.

In addition to camps of instruction for Junior Cadet officers, there have been two additional Officers' Training units formed at the Teachers' Training Colleges at Dunedin and Christchurch, thus making one unit at each college. This means now that from Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin, and Christchurch there will be annually a supply of about one hundred partially trained young teachers going out to take up scholastic duties in various parts of New Zealand, particularly in country districts, who will be ready to look after and drill the Junior Cadets at their schools.

The Department having outgrown its store accommodation, due to an increase in the number of Cadets, an additional storeroom had to be rented from Messrs. J. J. Bourke and Co., in Whitmore Street, at a rental of £50 per annum.

As much time was wasted by Junior Cadets marching to their rifle ranges, and shooting was often hurried and consequently useless, and also to prevent any overlapping in musketry training of Junior Cadets controlled by this Department and Senior Cadets under Defence administration, it was deemed necessary to abolish all open-air 200-yards ranges, and substitute miniature ranges. Accordingly all ·310 rifles and ammunition have been called in and withdrawn from use by Junior Cadets. 878 rifles and spare parts, and 683,000 rounds of ammunition, have been transferred to the Defence Department for use by that Department.

There are two types of miniature ranges now used by Junior Cadets--(1) The 25-yards range for use with \cdot 22 Winchester rifles; (2) 8-to-10-yards ranges for use with B.S.A. air-rifles and special targets. There are already established in New Zealand sixty of the former and forty-six of the latter ranges.

The work of providing schools with the above ranges to replace the 200-yards open-air ranges which have been abolished is being proceeded with as expeditiously as possible; but the utmost care is being exercised in the selection of sites and types of ranges with a view to economy and safety. These ranges afford a most satisfactory form of target practice for Junior Cadets, both from the point of view of efficiency and economy.

Under the new Regulations for Target Practice all trophies, shields, cups. &c., hitherto competed for on the 310 ranges are in future to be competed for on whichever of the above class of range happens to be at the school concerned. This has led to a redistribution of the trophies, &c., to suit the two classes of range, as under :---

Open to Schools with 22 Winchester Ranges.

- (1.) The North Island Government Challenge Shield.
- (2.) Weekly Press Shield (open to district high schools only).
- (3.) Winchester Repeating Arms Company's Challenge Shield.
- (4.) Four Colonial Ammunition Company's Cups.

Open to Schools with B.S.A. Air-rifle Ranges.

- (1.) South Island Government Challenge Shield.
- (2.) South Island Weekly Press Shield (open to district high schools only).
- (3.) Wanganui National Defence League's Challenge Shield and Belt (not open to Cadets in secondary departments of district high schools).
- (4.) Star and Graphic (Brett) Challenge Shield.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS FOR SHIELDS, CUPS, AND MEDALS FOR 1910.

Government Challenge Shields.

	0.000010	nucroe C maan	nego Naton				
North Island— Dannevirke North.			•••		• •		913
South Island Timaru Main		• •	•••	••			863
	" Weekly	Press " Ch	allenge Sh	ields.			
North Island— No. 1 Company, On	ehunga	•••		••	••		896
South Island— Port Chalmers						••	865

Colonial Ammunition	Company's	Cups.			
Combined districts of Auckland and Hawke's	Bay				
Cadet T. Monteith, No. 1 Company, Hastings			•••	• •	72
Combined districts of Taranaki, Wanganui, a	nd Welling	ton—			
Private Wake Barry, Stratford District I	High School				83
Combined districts of Nelson, Marlborough, Canterbury—	Westland,	and No	orth and a	South	
Private J. Wooding, Geraldine		••	• •	••	96
Combined districts of Otago and Southland-					
Colour-Sergeant G. Gough, Kaikorai		• •		•••	95
H :					

Wanganui Challenge Shield. Tie not yet fired off.

Wanyanui Championship Belt.

Bugler R. Down, Dannevirke North 42

Winners of District Prize Medals, being the Highest Individual Scorers for each District.

Colour-Sergeant Olsen, C.		Picton, Marlborough	• •	••	72
Sergeant Cadness, R		Northcote, Auckland			69
Cadet Lewin	• •	Masterton, Wellington			70
" Barry, W		Stratford, Taranaki			83
Colour-Sergeant Gough, G.	••	Kaikorai, Otago	· ·		95
Cadet Coutts, F	••	Makarewa, Waikiwi, Southland			92
" Hawthorne	••	Hastings, Hawke's Bay	• •		74
" Wooding		Geraldine, South Canterbury			96
" Ashley, D		St. Albans, North Canterbury			76
" Reeves, A		Nelson		• •	82
,, Hughes, W		Hokitika, Westland			92
" Waters, W		Waverley, Wanganui			62

Though shooting is one of the most important branches of a Junior Cadet's education, I regard physical training as being even more important, and have issued orders to all my Instructors that physical drill, without apparatus *only*, is to be taught to Cadets at schools. Apparatus, such as dumbbells or clubs, &c., is unsuitable for young children, and tends to stiffen rather than strengthen their muscles, and is more likely to do harm than good. In this I am supported by medical men and physicalculture experts throughout the Dominion.

Field-Marshal Earl Roberts last year offered a framed and signed photograph of himself to the best all-round Junior Cadet of the year. This was won by Bugler R. Down, of the Dannevirke North Junior Cadets Company.

His Lordship has also presented a signed copy of his book "Forty-one Years in India" for the best all-round Junior Cadet in 1911.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to $\pounds 7,669$ 8s. 4d., whilst the sum voted was $\pounds 7,223$. This excess of expenditure over the vote was due to the fact that revenue due. amounting to considerably more than the excess expenditure, was not credited to the Junior Cadet vote before the 31st March. (For details see schedule.)

In conclusion, I desire to state that I propose to make it a fundamental principle to refer to the General Officer Commanding the New Zealand Defence Forces all matters involving a change of system, such as military and physical training, target practice, organization, discipline, amendments to regulations, &c., for his consideration and opinion before actually giving effect to them.

The first matter to be dealt with in this way will be a series of amendments to the Regulations for the Junior Cadets, which I propose to submit at an early date for your approval.

The guiding principle in these amendments will be to obviate as much as possible any conflict between the Junior Cadet Regulations and those governing the Defence Forces. So long as this is done there need be no fear of overlapping in any way, and uniformity will be assured.

At the invitation of the G.O.C. the Defence Forces, I attended, for a few days, the training-camp at Tauherenikau, and witnessed the carrying-out of the tactical schemes. From every point of view I consider the camp afforded excellent examples of how such camps should be conducted, and I intend to bear it in mind as a model upon which to base future Cadet officers' training-camps.

SCHEDULE.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1911.

	v	oted	Ι.	Ex	pend	led.
Salaries	£	8.	d.	£	Š.	d.
1. Commandant of Cadets.	45 0	0	0			
Staff Officer at £250 (ten months)	208	0	0			
1 clerk at £210, 1 Storeman and Armourer at £193	403	0	0			
9 Staff Sergeant Instructors at £160 (six months)	720	0	0			
Typiste	62	0	0			
	1.843	0	0	1,889	6	4
Other charges for and incidental to-						
2. Arms and accessories, ammunition, equipment, uniforms.						
model rifles, prizes, engraving, insurance, books, office						
requisites, stores, &c.	4.000	0	0	5,350	0	9
3. Camps of training and course of instruction	800			259	-	$\frac{3}{2}$
4. Fares and allowances of officers, instructors, and cadets	000	0	()	200	11	2
	250	Δ	A	225	4	7
(including drill-pay)	200	0	0	220	4	'
5. Rifle ranges, construction, repairs, rents, targets, sheds, and	100	~	~	109	10	11
incidental expenses	400			463		11
6. Travelling expenses and allowances		-	0	192		4
7. Visit of Cadet representatives to England and Canada	110	0	0	110	0	0
8. Contingencies, including unforeseen expenditure incidental to						
the other items of the vote	50	0	0		••	
	7,553	0	0	8,490	1	1
Less estimated credits under section 42 of the Public						
Revenues Act, 1908	33 0	0	0	820	12	9
	£7,223	0	0	£7,669	8	 1

I have, &c., T. W. MacDonald, Major,

Commandant of Junior Cadets.

Approximate Cost of Paper .-- Preparation, not given; printing (2,000 copies), £3.

Price 3d.

By Authority : JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.-1911.

. د