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TERRITORIAL GUARD

Ceremonial Drill At Headquarters

IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY

Every hour of the day there is a guard mounted at the buildings which serve as the headquarters of the 1st Battalion, Wellington Regiment, now in training for three months, and the Central District School of Instruction at which n.c.o.'s and officers of a number of regiments and arms of the service are being given an intensive course preparatory to their units going into three months' camp. Members of the 1st Battalion, Wellington Regiment, provide the guard, which consists of a sergeant, corporal, and 10 other ranks. With bodies of troops bearing arms entering and leaving the headquarters building continuously through the day, the mounting of the guard at the present arms as they pass through is an impressive feature.

The peak of all drill is the standard attained at guard-mounting, and each day the new guard picked is given a solid instruction in the various arms movements performed on this ceremonial duty, as well as being informed of the requirements of members of the guard.

The objects of ceremonial, of which guard-mounting is a part, are to promote an esprit de corps and by the attainment of a high standard of smartness and cohesion on the parade ground to assist in the development of the moral qualities which are essential to success in war. It is held that these objects can be reached by careful preparation and exact execution on all ceremonial occasions.

The guard performs sentry duty at main entrance and exit points to the headquarters building, as well as turning out in full for the saluting of armed bodies of troops. Respect for the person and office of a sentry or guard is as strongly enjoined by military law as that required to be paid to an officer. A sentry, in respect of the duties with which he is charged, represents the supreme military authority of the command to which he belongs and whose orders he is required to enforce on or in the vicinity of his post. As such he is entitled to the respect and obedience of all persons who come within the scope of operations of the orders which he is required to carry into effect.

Absolute Authority.

Over military persons the authority of the sentry or guard is absolute and disobedience of his orders on the part of such persons constitutes a most serious military offence and is prejudicial in the highest degree to the interests of discipline. Therefore the guards to be seen at the points of the headquarters buildings and grounds every hour of the day represent men to be heeded by civilian and soldier alike.

The soldiers leaving and entering the camp are required to march past the guard at the slope. They must be properly dressed—a button undone or a tunic loose, constitutes a soldier "regimentally naked"—and any such remissness on their part is pointed out by the guard. They cannot pass till they have corrected it.

One guard is on duty from 10 a.m. of one day till 10 a.m. the next. Each man is on for two hours at a time, the full guard not being needed to cover the sentry points, and then has four hours off before resuming for another two hours. Nevertheless all members of the guard must be ready to turn out at full strength at instant notice.

There is a comfortable guard room where the men can rest and have refreshments. The various companies of the 1st Battalion, Wellington Regiment, supply the guard in turn, and each is keen to provide the smartest,

Everyman's Hut

"Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me."

What a picture of the world is presented in this verse. The sun of peace and prosperity is hidden behind the black clouds of war and confusion, bringing darkness over the face of the earth. For many peoples the day of freedom is approaching its eventide, and the night of bondage to a ruthless tyrant is beginning to deepen. Ahead lies the gloom with not one star of hope to be seen. Helpers relied upon have failed—everything seems to be lost. Our own nation which for long has stood as the champion of the oppressed and the helper of the helpless, has had to fall back and for the time being, abandon small nations to a common enemy,— nay, more, she is even now steeling herself for an onslaught of fury, from a foe that knows no honour or reason, only cold blooded cruelty and force, while the birds of prey are preparing to pounce upon the possessions which may be snatched away with safety during the conflict. Where then are we to look for help, for surely the events of the past nine months should convince anyone that "vain is the help of man!" It is easy to say "Look to the Lord, the helper of the helpless," but the sober truth is that since the war of 1914-1918, the world in general, including our own nation, has so neglected and turned from and despised God, that we have not yet reached the stage and condition where we can look to Him. We still hope for some turn in the international situation to give us victory, we still hope against hope that everything will turn out alright in the long run, and so we have not yet reached the state of helplessness necessary before God can be intreated. He is the helper of the helpless, not of those who think their own strength is sufficient to carry them through. Many are praying for victory without fulfilling the conditions necessary to ensure victory. As is the individual so is the nation. The two thieves at Calvary are symbolical of the people of our nation to-day. The evil threatening us is directed also against the Christ Himself. We have all been thieves in our attitude towards God. Content in our own self sufficiency, we have neglected His claims on us—more—we have taken to ourselves the credit for prosperity that has come to us only through the goodness of God working through the forces of nature. And now we stand condemned and in our calamity we cry to God. Many are like the unrepentant thief "save Thyself, and us." We're in trouble, get us out with as little loss and discomfort as possible, save our skins, so we can still go on the old way, living for ourselves and thieving from God. But there are those who realise that they are suffering justly, reaping the due reward of their sins, but with the assurance that Christ lives and in His own time will give the victory and will establish His power over all. And with repentant hearts to God for past sins and neglect and

with the sincere desire to clean up Him in the days to come, no matter what has to be endured they can say "Lord remember us." Oh, that our words might find a resting place in our every heart. "Righteousness (not self-righteousness, but the righteousness of a humble, contrite heart) exalteth a nation. Therein lies the path to victory for us, therefore, all who know things—band together in prayer and example, that our sins may speedily be brought to judgment before God at no matter what cost, that in His strength we may be exalted.

On Sunday evening Mr. C. Blair spoke on "Fulfilled prophecies" illustrated with slides, showing the judgments of God against those who rejected Him and the blessing on those who received Him and fulfilled down through the closing with a beautiful slide of man Hunt's "Light of the World" calling upon the men to clear the vines of sin and open the windows of their hearts ere He leaves them ever. May they be given grace and courage to obey.

GENERAL'S VISIT INSPECTION OF CAMPS UNITS IN TRAINING.

A visit of inspection to the camps in the Northern Military District was made on July 8th by the Chief of the General Staff, Major-General J. E. Duigan, C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by the officer commanding the district, Colonel N. W. McD. At Alexandra Park, Epsom, General Duigan saw the 1st Battalion Auckland Regiment (C.O.R.) and he then went to Papakura to see units of the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force carrying out their usual routine.

After lunch at Papakura General Duigan left for Ngaruawahia to inspect railway units of the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force as well as Territorial officers and commissioned officers who are going training under the new scheme.

CAMP INSPECTION Governor-General Trentham

During a two-hours' visit to the Central District Mobilization Camp Trentham on 13th July the Governor-General, Lord Galway, inspected the camp buildings, barracks, messes and other buildings, watched the troops training, inspected the forestry, railway and engineering units and addressed them briefly.

His Excellency, who was accompanied by his aide-de-camp, Mr. Dormer, was met at the entrance to the camp by Colonel R. A. Row, Officer Commanding the Central District, and the Camp Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel H. B. Hugh, M.C., N.Z.S.C., and during the inspection was accompanied by officers and Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. Wilder, D.S.O., M.C., V.D., L.H.O., and D.S.O., M.C., and J. H. Irvine.

Enemy food shortage may mean three meals a day for us, and five days a meal for them.