

OFFICERS.

111. I do not consider that any of the officers now serving should be transferred to the Staff Corps, which ought to be entirely formed from the graduates of the Military College ; but in order to enable the officers appointed to areas during the transition period to give instruction to the new Force, I would put such officers, when necessary, through a short course in the duties of an area officer. For this purpose I have put in the estimates funds sufficient to provide additional instructors.

WARRANT AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

112. Australia now maintains 229 instructional staff, warrant, and non-commissioned officers ; eventually about 400 will be required.

113. During the transition stage, the existing warrant and non-commissioned officers should be distributed throughout the areas and supplemented by the most suitable appointments that can be made.

114. If these proposals are thoroughly carried out, the completely trained Staff Corps officer will find his area mapped out, the registration complete, the various classes from junior cadets upwards formed, and he should thus take over a going concern, only requiring the guidance which he, by reason of his thorough military grounding, can give to raise each quota of the National Force to the high standard of efficiency which, I hope, the people of Australia will always demand of their military forces.

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