

The schools above mentioned were handed over to the General Staff Officer of the district, and were worked in the College buildings or in a camp as a military unit. All the duties necessary to the administration of an Infantry battalion were strictly and religiously carried out by the boys. In every case the experiment proved an entire success; the boys entered into the spirit of the training with enthusiasm, and very valuable results were acknowledged by the masters of the schools concerned.

The success of this experiment is a favourable augury for the initiation of the system of concentration of country companies recommended by the Inspector-General. For these it is even more necessary, and would produce even better results than in the case of the schools, as the latter have already their school discipline to help them.

14. SPECIAL TRAINING OF PERMANENT OFFICERS AND N.C.O.S.

2nd Lieutenant W. A. Burn, New Zealand Staff Corps, and Lieutenants Davies and Turner, Royal New Zealand Artillery, now in England undergoing instruction with the Regular Army, will shortly return to New Zealand for duty.

Major Richardson, New Zealand Staff Corps, is now representing the Dominion at the War Office. Brigadier-General Davies, C.B., still commands the 6th Infantry Brigade at Aldershot. Major Gard'ner, Royal New Zealand Artillery, is on duty with a command in England.

Captain Burgess, New Zealand Staff Corps, is in Australia as an officer in exchange with Lieutenant (temporary Captain) Alderman, Australian Military Forces. Colonel Smyth, A.D.C., has proceeded to England for a year's instructional course with the Regular Army.

A "refresher" course for Permanent officers and non-commissioned officers was held, to which fuller reference is made in paragraph 20.

15. STAFF COLLEGE.

Captain Smyth, Royal New Zealand Artillery, and Captain Melvill, New Zealand Staff Corps, have been admitted to the Staff College, Camberley. Major Richardson, New Zealand Staff Corps, and Major Gard'ner, Royal New Zealand Artillery, have graduated from the Staff College, Camberley. Captains Chesney and Duigan, New Zealand Staff Corps, are still undergoing a course at the Camberley and Quetta Staff Colleges.

Five officers are this year desirous of presenting themselves as candidates for the Staff College, Camberley.

16. ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF AUSTRALIA.

Application has been made to the Army Council for the eight Cadets who complete their course of training at Duntroon at the end of this year to proceed to England at once for instruction during the training season at Home, from the commencement of company training in March till the conclusion of army manœuvres in September. Also that they shall then proceed at once to India and go through the Indian training season from October, 1915, till March, 1916, returning to the Dominion and being available for duty with the Forces at the beginning of the winter of 1916.

The total number of Cadets now at the College is twenty-six. Nine were admitted last year. Four vacancies only will be available for competition this year.

17. ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, SANDHURST.

Arrangements have been made whereby each half-year three New-Zealanders who have been nominated by His Excellency the Governor, and who have passed the Army Entrance Examination, may be admitted to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Three candidates have already been nominated for the half-year about to close, and are sitting for the Army Entrance Examination. At the end of their term at the College it is hoped that they may be allowed either to join the British Army, should they be so desirous and should they obtain the necessary approval of the Home authorities, or to return to the Dominion, as they please. In the latter case, should the reports of them from Sandhurst be satisfactory, they should receive commissions in the Citizen Army.

18. EXAMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR PROMOTION.

(a.) *Officers of the Royal New Zealand Artillery and New Zealand Staff Corps.*

In May, 1913, four Captains sat: two passed and two failed in one subject each. Two Lieutenants sat, and both passed. In December, 1913, nine Captains sat: six passed and three failed in one subject only. Ten Lieutenants sat: six passed and four failed in one subject only. Altogether, since the inauguration of the scheme of universal training, seventy-nine officers have presented themselves and sixty-four passed—a percentage of 81·01.

(b.) *Territorial Officers.*

In August, 1913, forty-four officers passed in all subjects in the written examination, and fifty-one failed in one or more subjects. In February, 1914, thirty-four officers passed in all subjects in the written examination, and twenty-one failed; of the latter, eighteen failed in one subject only.

The result of the practical examinations during the year was that nine Majors passed in tactical fitness for command, twenty-three Captains passed for promotion to Major, and 133 2nd Lieutenants passed the examination for promotion to Lieutenant. The examination for Lieutenants for promotion to Captain is entirely in writing.

Altogether, since the inauguration of the scheme of universal training, 520 officers have presented themselves for examination, and 315 passed—a percentage of 60·57.