

8.—SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

WORKS AND ARMAMENTS.

I have recommended certain changes in the works and armament by which the saving of a very considerable number of men will be effected.

ARTILLERY PERSONNEL.

To raise the numbers of trained or partially trained men to the strength required by me, I propose—(1) That the men who have gone from the Permanent Artillery to the Police Force should be called out for ten days in each year for training, which will render them efficient for service when required; (2) that the central Naval corps and the battery of Garrison Artillery (kept up) should receive capitation at the rate of £3 per efficient man; (3) that these corps should go into camp for a fortnight each year, receiving 1s. 6d. per man per day in camp for rations; (4) that at Easter they should camp at their own forts; (5) that proper allowances of ammunition should be sanctioned for their instruction; (6) that every man must be present in camp at least seven out of the fourteen days, and must attend at least eighteen parades during the year, irrespective of camps, three being afternoon parades; (7) that the men should be examined for efficiency certificates, for which badges will be given; (8) that two-thirds of the strength must be present on at least four parades during the year.

SUBMARINE-MINE DEFENCE.

I have recommended that this defence should be completed, and that properly-fitted launches and boats should be kept up where necessary.

SUBMARINE-MINING PERSONNEL.

I recommend (1) That the Naval corps at each centre should receive capitation of £3 per trained submarine miner; (2) that the men should go into camp each year for a fortnight's training, receiving 1s. 6d. per man per day in camp for rations; (3) that at Easter they should camp near their mine-stations and work at laying out mines; (4) that sufficient stores be provided for their proper instruction; (5) that each man must be in camp for seven out of the fourteen days; (6) that each man must attend eighteen parades, irrespective of camp, three of these being whole afternoons; (7) that the men should be examined for efficiency certificates, for which badges will be given; (8) that two-thirds of the strength must be present on at least four parades during the year.

CAVALRY AND MOUNTED RIFLES.

I recommend—(1) That Cavalry and Mounted Rifles corps should receive capitation of £3 per efficient man; (2) that these corps should train either for one week at a time or else on twelve whole afternoons during the year; (3) that if the corps trains in camp for a week, each man must put in at least six afternoon parades during the year, irrespective of camps; (4) that, if the training of the corps has up till now been twelve whole-afternoon parades during the year, each man must in future put in at least six other afternoon parades, irrespective of the Easter encampment; (5) that two-thirds of the strength must be present on at least four parades during the year.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

Field batteries should be properly equipped and maintained, one to each centre. I recommend—(1) That batteries of six 9-pr. R.B.L. guns be formed at Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin; and one battery of six 6-pr. Nordenfeldt guns at Wellington; (2) that these batteries should obtain capitation of £3 per efficient man; (3) that a proper allowance of ammunition for practice should be sanctioned; (4) that 150 rounds of ammunition per gun be kept up for these batteries; (5) that each man must attend eighteen parades during the year, exclusive of Easter encampment, three being afternoon parades; (6) that two-thirds of the strength must be present on at least four parades during the year; (7) that the men should be examined for efficiency certificates, for which badges will be given.

INFANTRY AND ENGINEERS.

I recommend—(1) The keeping-up of the number of infantry corps as shown. These corps should be organized into battalions, the head-quarters of the battalion being at the centre of the district; (2) that each corps should draw capitation of £2 10s. per efficient man; (3) that each man must put in eighteen parades, three of these being whole-afternoon parades, during the year, exclusive of Easter encampment; (4) that two-thirds of the strength must be present on at least four parades during the year; (5) that the men should be examined for proficiency in signalling, telegraphy, &c., for which certificates and badges will be given.

CAMPS.

I recommend that as far as possible the corps belonging to each centre should go into camp each Easter in the immediate vicinity of their centres, there to be exercised over the ground and at the particular work they would have to do were they called upon to meet an enemy. The expenses of these camps, including rations, should be defrayed by the Government.

BONUS.

I recommend that to each efficient Volunteer who has attended the Easter encampment of the year the sum of 10s. be given at the end of the year provided he has been in the camp three days.