



Bulford

Territorial Camps Strong Musters On The Plain Wessex Brigades at Bulford

(From Our Special Correspondents)

SALISBURY, July 26.

On Salisbury Plain on Saturday about 10,000 officers and men of the Territorial Force had already assembled for their annual training, and by the end of the week there will be about 50,000 in camp. Numerous camps for all branches of the service are dotted over the plain. The main centres are Perham Down, Tidworth, Windmill Hill, Bulford, Larkhill, Durrington, Fargo, Rollestone and Hamilton.

The most important camp at present from the point of view of size is that at Bulford. Here there are two brigades of the Wessex Division – namely the South-Western Infantry Brigade and the Hampshire Infantry Brigade. The first, which consists of the 4th and 5th Battalions of the Somerset Light Infantry, the 4th Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment, and the 4th Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment, is exceptionally strong. Recruiting has been very good in Somerset and Wilts during the past 12 months, and the four battalions have been able to bring into camp a large proportion of their strength, roughly about 850 officers and men each. Colonel G. S. McD. Elliot is the brigade commander, and Captain H. B. Fisher the brigade major. The Hampshire Brigade, which is commanded by Colonel G. H. Nicholson, with Major G. E. R. Kenrick as brigade major, consists of the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions of the Hampshire Regiment. The Battalions are not so strong, but the total number in camp, 88 officers, 191 sergeants, and 1,989 men, is considered very satisfactory, for it is well above that for last year's training.

Yesterday there was much heavy rain, but there was a decided improvement this morning, and it was in bright sunshine that church parade took place. There was a strong north-easterly wind so that the men have not begun their training in altogether ideal conditions. The camp at Bulford, however, is situated on the side of the hill and the ground was as dry this morning as though there had been no rain at all, while the hill track was thick with dust. For both brigades the programme for this week consists almost entirely of section, half-company, company, and battalion drill.

The Times, London - Monday July 27, 1914