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South African Defence

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SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENCE.

A RÉSUMÉ OF THE SOUTH AFRICA DEFENCE ACT OF 1912.

By LIEUTENANT R. H. BEADON, Army Service Corps.

WHATEVER may be the criticism that can be justly levelled against the Government of South Africa, it will generally be conceded that the passing of the Defence Bill in so short a time after union, is highly creditable to it. For, despite the loyal support lent to the Cabinet by the Opposition, it looked at one time as if it would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to force the measure through the House of Assembly. The whole power of the back-veld was mistrustful of a measure that in their view tended to militarism, and compulsion in any form met with scant favour. The indefatigable work of Generals Botha and Smuts, however, succeeded in overcoming the prejudice, and the Act was enabled to take its place in the Statute Book.

It is not within the scope of this article to discuss ways and means, but merely to outline the scheme as passed into law. A few words defining the needs of the country may form as an introduction to a sketch of the Bill itself.

The problem before the Government was a two-fold one :—

- (a) To preserve internal peace.
- (b) To guard against external foes.

It would seem, at first sight, redundant to mention the former, but the large and ever-increasing number of natives within the Union makes the question a highly important one for Afrikaners. The white people, outnumbered by nearly seven to one, are compelled to take steps to render their position absolutely secure.

Regarding the second point, the issues are more complicated, for they involve the whole question of the relations of a self-governing dominion with the Mother Country, and the duties and responsibilities of the former should the latter be at war.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE DEFENCE ORGANIZATION.

It is proposed to outline as clearly as possible the proposed organization, as set down by the Act, and then to offer a few explanatory notes and comments. Criticism is scarcely fair until the actual working of the new state of affairs gives some facts to go upon. General Smuts himself freely invited discussion when the Bill was first introduced, and openly stated that he did not doubt but that it would be improved thereby.

The Governor-General is *ex-officio* head of the Force, and there is a "Council of Defence" appointed by him. This is to consist of a President and four members, and is compelled to

meet at least once in six months. It may be of interest to give their names :—

President : General Smuts, Minister of Finance and Defence.

Members : General S. C. Burger.

Colonel the Hon. C. P. Crewe, C.B.

General the Hon. C. R. de Wet.

Colonel Sir D. MacKenzie, C.B., K.C.M.G.

In addition there is a Headquarter Staff and there are also District Staffs. The former is presumably to be the channel of communication between the Minister of Defence and the various commanders and inspectors of the Defence Forces. The whole Union is to be divided into 13 Military Districts, an officer of field rank being appointed to each.

The Defence Force comprises the following forces :—

1. The Permanent Force.
2. The Coast Garrison Force.
3. The Citizen Force.
4. The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.
5. Any Special Reserve established under the Act.

To deal briefly with these in the above order.

(1) The Permanent Force.

The Permanent Force is to consist of :

- (a) Persons engaged for continuous service in the organization and training of the Defence Force, and
- (b) Persons charged in time of peace with the maintenance of order in the Union.

At present the Permanent Force will have five regiments of Mounted Rifles—approximately 2,500 strong, to be known as the South African Mounted Rifles. Each regiment will have a battery of artillery as a component part of it, and as many of its members as possible will be trained in field artillery duties in addition to their mounted rifle work.

The famous Corps of Cape Mounted Rifles forms the basis on which the Permanent Force is built, together with the police forces of the various Provinces of the Union. It will be responsible for police work during peace time, each regiment being allotted a district, and it will also provide instructors for the Citizen Force. Its members are at all times liable to be employed on active service against an enemy anywhere in South Africa within or outside the Union, or for the prevention or suppression of internal disorders within the Union.

The Act provides naturally for direct enlistment into the Force, but at present not very many men will be required, as the existing establishments that are to be incorporated will go far to bringing the five regiments to the proposed strength. As regards the officers it is laid down that in future—five years following upon the date of the establishment of a Military

College—the appointments to commissioned rank will as far as possible be given to graduates of that college.

Brigadier-General H. T. Lukin, C.M.G., D.S.O., late of the Cape Mounted Rifles, has been selected for the post of Inspector-General of the Permanent Force.

So much for the Regular portion of the Union Army.

(2) The Coast Garrison Force.

To quote the words of the Act :

“For the effective protection of the defended ports of the Union, there shall be established a Coast Garrison Force, which shall include a Corps to be designated the South African Garrison Artillery, and a Corps to be designated the South African Coast Defence Corps.

The Volunteer Corps of Cape Garrison Artillery shall be constituted the 1st Division of South African Garrison Artillery. The South African Coast Defence Corps shall consist of citizens trained specially to engineer, signalling, and telegraphy and harbour control duties.”

The training of the above force is intended to be in conjunction with any Imperial troops forming the garrison of a defended port in the Union. Indeed, its *raison d'être* is to assist the latter in time of war or in the event of the withdrawal of the Imperial troops to take over the duties themselves. Special attention is drawn to the necessity of co-operation with the naval authorities.

The appointments to and conditions of service are similar to those hereafter described in dealing with :

(3) The Citizen Force.

As this forms the largest and most important part of the scheme, it will be dealt with at rather more length than the preceding. It is to consist of all men liable to render personal service in time of war who are not members of the Permanent Force, Coast Garrison Force, or Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve,

It will comprise three divisions :

- (i.) *The Active Citizen Force.*
- (ii.) *The Citizen Force Reserve.*
- (iii.) *The National Reserve.*

(i.) THE ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE.—The first of these is to consist of officers, N.C.O.'s and men, trained to special duties, who may be appointed; citizens between their seventeenth and twenty-fifth years who have been entered for and are undergoing peace training in the Force; and other citizens who are permitted to extend their service after their twenty-fifth year in units specially appointed for such extended service. Provided the men who have completed four years peace training in any unit of the Active Citizen Force before reaching their twenty-fifth year, may be permitted voluntarily to continue their service until they attain the age of 25.

The Force is to be organized by units of the various combatant arms and departmental services, and so far as practicable the organization of every unit will be arranged territorially, in such a way that units may be composed of those residing in the same districts, and that a group of units in the same or adjoining districts may constitute a field force properly equipped to take the field in time of war or for purposes of manœuvres.

A School of Aviation is provided for, and all who pass the prescribed course may be enrolled in the South African Aviation Corps, which comes under this category.

It is estimated that the strength of the Active Citizen Force will be from 20,000 to 25,000 men. This number will be selected from those registered under the Act, registration being compulsory between the ages of 17 and 21. If insufficient volunteers are obtained from the quota demanded in each district, the ballot will be applied; a system has been invented which ensures that those drawn are most easily able to serve. It has been freely stated that the ballot can be avoided by the payment of £1 a year. This is not so, but those who are not drawn by ballot do pay such a tax, and they must, in addition, join Class "B" of the Citizen Force, and serve at least four years in the Rifle Associations.

(ii.) THE CITIZEN FORCE RESERVE.—The second portion of the Citizen Force is the Citizen Force Reserve. It is divided into two classes:

Class "A" consists of men not past their forty-fifth year, who have undergone the prescribed training as members of the Active Citizen Force, and those who have been transferred to that Class from a Militia or Volunteer Corps. *Class "A"* will be organized, as far as possible, so that its members, unless engaged in the Field Reserve to the South African Mounted Rifles, will, until they are 45 years of age, be allotted as Reservists to their old unit of the Active Citizen Force.

Class "B" consists of men not over 45 years of age, who are serving, or who have served as members of a Rifle Association; and of any men who may have been transferred thereto from a Militia or Volunteer Corps. *Class "B"* will be organized so that its members, unless they are engaged for the Police Reserve to the South African Mounted Rifles, or for the Veteran Reserve, as described further on, will form territorial corps with sub-divisions, corresponding, as far as possible, with the arrangements of Rifle Associations in each district.

All members of the Citizen Force Reserve will, when called upon, be liable to present themselves for inspection once a year.

It is important to note that *Class "B"* includes a vast proportion of the male population of the country, because the

use of the rifle is compulsorily taught to all who do not join the Defence Forces, so that they will be in *Class "B"* until they are sixty years old, when they will then pass into

(iii.) **THE NATIONAL RESERVE.**—This Reserve forms the third portion of the Citizen Force, and merely comprises all those who, not being members of any other part of the Defence Forces, are liable to render personal service in time of war.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.—With regard to the officers of both the Coast Garrison and Citizen Forces, appointments are to be made as far as possible by promotion from the ranks. After five years from the commencement of the Act, every candidate for a commission has to fulfil the following conditions :—

- (a) He shall satisfy the prescribed authority as to his capacity for leadership, military knowledge and experience, and educational attainments.
- (b) He shall undergo courses of instruction in professional subjects and qualify in the same.

All who accept commissions have to engage to serve not less than six years from the date of their original appointment.

The appointment of those whose civil callings specially qualify them for any technical branch is provided for.

Promotion examinations for officers are laid down on very similar lines as those for the Regular Army.

It will be by no means easy to satisfy everybody with regard to the filling of the commissioned ranks at the outset. Plenty of material is available; indeed, the difficulty will be selection; but feeling between two sections ten years ago at war, naturally still runs high. But it is diminishing year by year, and the welding together of the two races will be materially assisted by their serving in arms together. So the future is not unhopeful.

Brigadier-General Beyers, one of the most able and resourceful of the younger Boer leaders in the war, has been selected as Commandant-General of the Citizen Force. Before taking up his duties he went for an extensive tour in Europe, with the object of seeing the Swiss Army system—upon which the Defence Force is avowedly modelled—in working. He also attended the British Army Manœuvres, and visited the chief arsenals of the United Kingdom.

4. The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve is that body of volunteers constituting part of the Royal Naval Reserve, which, under the designation of the "South African Division of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve," is maintained at the expense of the Union Government. They may be placed at Imperial disposal for service in the Royal Navy in case of emergency, and they come under the regulations governing its discipline while under instruction, either on land or at sea, and while on actual service.

5. The Special Reserves.

The Special Reserves are somewhat complicated, but it is necessary to enumerate them in order to make clear the scope of the Defence Act.

1. A RESERVE OF OFFICERS, liable for service in time of war, is to be formed; but as yet no details regarding it are available.

2. A RESERVE FOR THE PERMANENT FORCES will be formed, consisting of :—

(a) *A Field Reserve* composed of :—

- (i.) Those who have completed their term of engagement as members of the Permanent Force.
- (ii.) Those who are enrolled in *Class "A"* of the Citizen Force Reserve.

Who are deemed suitable and engage thus to serve.

(b) *A Police Reserve*, consisting of citizens who are enrolled as members of *Class "B"* of the Citizen Force Reserve, and who are not less than 30 years of age, and who engage to serve therein.

3. THE COAST GARRISON FORCE RESERVE.—This consists of members of the Coast Garrison Force who have completed the prescribed period of training in that Force, and who are not over 45 years of age.

4. THE VETERAN RESERVE.—This consists of members of the National Reserve, or of *Class "B"* of the Citizen Force Reserve, other than members of that Force who have engaged for service in the Police Reserve, who have had war experience or an adequate military training, and who engage to serve in time of war in the Veteran Reserve.

THE PEACE TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF THE DEFENCE FORCE.

TRAINING.—The training of the Permanent Force need not be considered, for they will serve continually, and be always available for military training when not actually doing police duties.

The training of the Citizen Forces is a different matter. The Bill lays down that the course of training in the Active Citizen Force "shall extend over a period which shall be reckoned from the first day of July in the year of entry, to 30th June, in the fourth year from that date; and each training year shall be reckoned from July 1st in one year to June 30th in the following year."

The course of training in each year has not as yet been definitely fixed, but it is laid down that it shall not exceed

- (a) Thirty days for the training year, during which a citizen is being trained as a recruit.

- (b) Twenty-one days during any other training year, and will include one period of continuous training lasting not more than 22 days in the year, during which a man is being trained as a recruit; and not more than 15 days during any training year.

The following are to reckon as days during the non-continuous training :—

- (a) A period of instruction lasting eight hours.
- (b) Two periods of instruction each lasting four hours.
- (c) Six periods of instruction each lasting one hour and a half.

The time occupied in proceeding to, and returning from the place of instruction, is not to be included.

If anyone, entered for training in the Active Citizen Force in any training years, evades without permission his full course, he is liable to be proceeded against.

Those entered for training in a mounted unit have to provide their own horses and saddlery, allowances being made for the same. The horses will be insured at the expense of the public while liable to military risks.

Those who volunteered for peace training, either in the Coast Garrison or Active Citizen Forces, have a choice of one of the units allotted to their district, while others do not.

It will have been observed how closely the principle of the scheme corresponds to that of Switzerland, though the periods of actual peace training are considerably shorter.

EDUCATION.—As regards military education, a South African Military College is to be maintained, and all candidates for commissions will in future be trained there. A class of some 50 selected officers—some English and some Dutch—have only recently completed the first course at Bloemfontein, where they were supervised by General Aston, late Chief of Staff to the Imperial troops in the country, who had been lent to the Union Government for that purpose. Much of the future of the scheme will depend on the first batch put through. They will be, so to speak, the apostles of the Defence Force, and have now gone to different parts of the country to take up appointments in connection with it.

Students at the South African Military College, other than officers of the Defence Forces, will be formed into a Military Corps, and their service in that corps will be reckoned towards service in the Defence Forces.

MILITARY INSTRUCTION OF THE POPULATION.

Having dealt with the education and training of the actual organized forces, the instruction that the bulk of the population receive should next be quoted.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.—All liable to peace training, *i.e.*, all who might be compelled to serve in the Active Citizen Force, have to be enrolled as members of a Rifle Association, and for five years undergo a course of training in the care and use of the rifle. Rifles and accoutrements are provided at the public expense, and are liable to be inspected at various times. All others liable to render personal service in time of war may engage to serve in the Rifle Associations under certain conditions, receiving a free annual grant of ammunition. These Rifle Associations are to be territorially organized for the purpose of forming corps in time of war. Behind the Rifle Association comes the Cadet training.

CADET TRAINING.—A number of boys will have to undergo Cadet training in certain centres, where they will be instructed in physical exercises, military formations, rifle shooting, signalling, etc. Where there are no facilities for Cadet training, boys between the ages of 13 and 17 may be enrolled as Cadet members of Rifle Associations.

As regards the former class, if a boy has undergone the prescribed course of instruction for any one year, and has shown himself proficient, he will be reckoned as an efficient Cadet for that year, and if he is reckoned efficient for not less than three years, and his conduct has been satisfactory, he receives a certificate of efficiency. This entitles him to certain privileges if he joins the Active Citizen Force. As regards Cadet officers, schoolmasters, and others who are members of the Coast Garrison or Active Citizen Forces, and who hold commissioned rank, or are qualified for it in those forces, may be appointed as officers of Cadet Corps, and their service as such shall be reckoned as commissioned service in the Defence Force.

Colonel P. S. Beves, late Inspector of the Transvaal Volunteer Forces, has been appointed Commandant of Cadets.

A word now as to the vexed language question, which is dealt with as follows :—

“All officers and non-commissioned officers of the Defence Forces shall be instructed in giving and receiving executive words of command in each of the official languages of the Union, and all citizens shall be trained and instructed in the official language which is best understood by them.

“Whenever it is not practicable in any unit to carry out the instruction and training entirely in one of the official languages, then provision shall be made as far as possible for the instruction and training of the minority of the members of that unit in the language best understood by them.”

The actual forces to be formed, and the training which they are to be given, have now been briefly sketched. Any desiring to pursue the subject more fully should study the Defence Act itself. There the administration, discipline, and various other points are provided for in more or less detail, though as yet

the scheme is, of course, in its infancy. Regulations are to be made, and one may expect a number of modifications before it actually gets working. The mainstay of the scheme is, of course, the Active Citizen Force, and this will not be filled for about four years—and Classes "A" and "B" not for nearly 30 years under normal conditions.

Then, as yet, the scheme is not properly understood by the mass of the people, and many prejudices exist. These are being largely overcome by the work of the officers in command of the districts, who are, at the time of writing, engaged in tours, to make known, by means of lectures and meetings, the duties of their people. The appointments made appear wise, the more exclusively Dutch parts of the country, such as portions of the Orange Free State, being under Dutch officers, and the more English portions, such as those of the Witwatersrand, under Englishmen.

The material is so excellent that it would appear justifiable to indulge in optimism. What nation in the world at the present time can claim so large a percentage of its citizens as having been trained in the hard school of war, and that in the country which they have now to defend?

One cannot do better than end with the words of a South African critic of the Bill:

"Broadly speaking, it is safe to say that a good system has been devised. It is for the people of South Africa to see that efficiency is established; and experience has shown that the more efficient forces may be, the more popular do they become, and the greater the honour felt to become a member."

NOTE.—Since this article was written in November, 1912, various regulations and instructions (in English and Dutch) concerning the Defence Act have been received from South Africa. Extracts from some of these are given below as Appendices.—Ed.

APPENDIX I.: REGISTRATION.

REGULATIONS FOR THE REGISTRATION AND VOLUNTARY ENTRY OF CITIZENS FOR PEACE TRAINING.

1. *Registration by 15th January, 1913.*—Any citizen who, during the year 1913, will attain an age between 17 years and 21 years (both years inclusive) must appear personally between the 2nd and the 15th day of

January, 1913, at a magistrate's office, police station, or police post, or before a field cornet, except in the Province of Natal, and fill in a registration form as set forth in Appendix A.

2. *Acknowledgment of Registration.*—The official or police officer before whom the registration form is filled in shall complete the same and hand the citizen a form of acknowledgment as set forth in Appendix B, which shall serve as a certificate of registration for the purpose of production under sub-section (5) of section 53 of the Act, until the citizen has been furnished with a certificate of registration in the form set forth in Appendix C.

3. *Registration during January prevented by Illness or Physical Disability.*—If a citizen, by reason of bona-fide illness, or physical disability, is unable so to appear and register himself, and transmits to such office, station, post, or field cornet, as is mentioned in paragraph 1 of these regulations, not later than the 15th day of January, 1913, a letter giving his full name and postal address, the year of his birth, and a true statement as to his illness or physical disability, he may be permitted to register himself in such other manner as the Registering Officer can arrange, and upon such registration shall be deemed to have fulfilled his liability under the Act to register himself during the month of January.

4. *Registration after Due Date.*—(i) A citizen who, on account of absence from the Union or for any other valid reason, is unable to register himself during the month of January shall appear personally before a magistrate within 30 days after the date of his return to the Union, or after the date upon which any other cause of his not having been able to register himself during the month of January has ceased to exist, and shall satisfy the magistrate that owing to such absence, or for other valid reason, he was unable to register himself during that month.

(ii) If the magistrate, upon sufficient proof, is satisfied as to such absence or as to the validity of such reason, and as to the citizen having appeared before him within 30 days after the date aforesaid, he shall require the citizen to make an affidavit as to the circumstances of the failure to register during the month of January, and shall require the citizen to complete the registration form as set forth in Appendix A. The magistrate shall then transmit the affidavit and registration form to the Registering Officer.

(iii) If the magistrate be not so satisfied, he shall require the citizen to complete the registration form given in Appendix A, and in transmitting it to the Registering Officer he shall notify the said officer that the citizen has failed to satisfy him as aforesaid.

5. *Registration after Conviction for Failure to Register.*—Upon conviction of a citizen for failure to register himself duly in accordance with the provisions of the Act and these regulations, the Court before which the citizen has been convicted shall make an order requiring him to register himself forthwith before a magistrate.

6. *Registration of Persons who become Citizens after January.*—Any person who, by reason of his or his parent's naturalization, or by reason of his coming to reside permanently within the Union, or under any other circumstances, becomes a citizen after the month of January in his 17th year and before the month of May in his 21st year, shall register himself in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of these regulations, and the said provision shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the registration of such citizen.

7. *Registering Officers and other Persons to assist in Registration.*

(i) The District Staff Officer of every military district and sub-district shall be the Registering Officer for that district or sub-district.

(ii) The following persons are authorized to give such assistance as may be required in carrying out the registration of citizens under these regulations:—

(a) Magistrates and assistant magistrates, field cornets, and when thereto required by the Minister justices of the peace, members of magisterial staffs.

(b) All ranks of the instructional and administrative staff of the Union Defence Forces.

(c) All ranks of any police force by law duly constituted.

8. *Voluntary Entry for Peace Training.*—A citizen who in any calendar year will attain any age between 17 years and 21 years (both years inclusive) may apply to be entered for peace training in that year by appearing personally before, or lodging written application with, the Registering Officer of his military district, between the 2nd day of January and the 15th day of June (both days inclusive) of that year.

Where a citizen desires to enter voluntarily for peace training in the same year as he registers himself under the Act, and states so in his form of registration, it will not be necessary for him to make any further application.

NOTES ON THE STATUS OF A "CITIZEN" AS A BRITISH SUBJECT UNDER THE SOUTH AFRICA DEFENCE ACT, 1912.

In section 124, "Citizen" is defined as meaning:—

"any male British subject in the Union other than a British subject belonging to His Majesty's Naval Forces or Naval Reserve Forces, or to His Majesty's Regular, Reserve, or Auxiliary Military Forces, or in the service of His Majesty's Government,¹ or on the personal staff of the Governor-General of the Union."

Subject to the remarks made later as to a person divesting himself of his status as a British subject, a person is a British subject in the Union

(a) By having been born a British subject:

(b) By the annexation of the South African Republic and the Republic of the Orange Free State to the British Empire, and by showing his acceptance of the change of Government resulting therefrom in remaining within the territories of those Republics under the new Government:

(c) By naturalization under Act of Union Parliament No. 4 of 1910, or the prior provincial naturalization laws repealed by that Act:

(d) By naturalization under the Imperial Naturalization Act.

The following points should be noted under each of these heads:—

(a) *Persons who are born British subjects.*—All civilized nations claim as their subjects:—

(i) Persons who are born in their territories (unless they were born children of alien enemies when those territories were in military occupation of those alien enemies);

(ii) Persons whose parents are their subjects, wherever they may be born.

These are simple rules enough, taken by themselves, and no difficulty occurs except when they both operate, as for example where children of

¹ In other words anyone in the Imperial Navy, Military, or Civil Service paid by the Government of the United Kingdom.

parents who are German subjects are born within the Union of South Africa, or again where children of South African British subjects are born in German South-West Africa. In both these cases, these children have both British and German nationality. Dual nationality is dealt with later in these notes. The other simple rules which determine nationality are:—

- (i) The wife takes the nationality of her husband, whatever that nationality may be for the time being;
- (ii) A spinster or widow can change her nationality when or after she becomes 21;
- (iii) Children under 21 take the nationality of their parents, and cannot alter their status voluntarily under the age of 21. From the age of 21 no change of nationality made by their parents can affect the children;
- (iv) Children under 21 who are not residing with their parents when they become naturalized, but are in a foreign country, away from their parents, do not change their nationality on the naturalization of their parents, unless, before they are 21, they come and take up residence with their parents in the country of naturalization.

(b) "*By annexation.*"—Every burgher of the late Republics became a British subject when, on the termination of hostilities, and the consequent acceptance by the Governments of those Republics of the fact of annexation, he settled in the territories which on annexation had become part of the British dominions. No other specific act on his part, such as an oath of allegiance or formal declaration, was necessary to render him a British subject.

(c) "*By naturalization in the Union under South African Naturalization Acts.*"—Every civilized nation has laws providing for persons of other nationalities taking upon themselves its own nationality—this act is termed "naturalization"—but the laws of various nations differ as regards the extent to which a person can divest himself of his original or acquired nationality. As a general rule, it may be stated that every nation claims the right to subject any person who was originally of or has acquired its nationality, to all the obligations its laws lay upon persons of its nationality within its own territories. Thus a German subject by birth who has become a naturalized British subject, cannot claim exemption from compulsory military service if he returns to German territory. In practice, moreover, the British Empire does not extend its protection to naturalized British subjects when they return to, or travel in, the country of their origin.

(d) "*By naturalization under the Imperial Naturalization Act, 1870.*"—The provisions of Section 9 of the Union Naturalization Act (No. 4 of 1910) make this point quite clear. It should be observed, however, that naturalization under any laws of the other self-governing dominions (viz., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Newfoundland) is not recognized in the Union. The position briefly is that naturalization under the Imperial Act runs throughout the whole British Empire, but the naturalization law of a self-governing dominion has effect only within its own territories.

Dual Nationality.—Under the Imperial Naturalization Act, a person who has dual nationality, that is, who was—

- (i) either born in a foreign country of British parents; or
 - (ii) born in British dominions of foreign parents,
- may, on or after reaching the age of 21, divest himself of his British nationality by making a declaration to that effect in due form. Until

he is 21, he has no power to do so. A person naturalized under that Act may also divest himself of his status of British subject.

In South Africa there certainly are a considerable number of young men who thus have dual nationality. The far greater majority of cases of dual nationality will be found to be those of the 2nd class mentioned above. District Staff Officers may have to deal with such cases. While no doubt these persons with dual nationality are citizens as defined by the South Africa Defence Act, the Minister wishes District Staff Officers, in dealing with such cases, to be guided by these notes and the following instructions:—

- (1) A note in red ink should be made of any case of dual nationality on the certificate of registration in the original and the duplicate of the record, thus,

"Has also Italian nationality from parents."

or

"Has also German nationality from place of birth."

- (2) Cases of persons who claim exemption from registration or service under the Defence Act owing to their having dual nationality should be referred at once to the Under-Secretary for Defence, with full particulars of each case, and no attempt should be made to enforce registration or service until the Minister's instructions on the case are received.

In the annexure are set out a few examples which District Staff Officers will do well to study carefully, and understand thoroughly, so that they may be familiar with the application of the rules given above when having to deal with, and elicit information, on complicated cases, involving the determination of any individual's nationality.

H. R. M. BOURNE,

Department of Defence,

Under-Secretary for Defence.

Pretoria, 8th November, 1912.

EXAMPLE.

In 1894 a German subject came to reside in the Transvaal, and brought with him a son, who was born in Germany during 1890.

In 1899 the father became a burgher, but before doing so, he sent his son to school in Germany. After the war he remained in the Transvaal, and thus accepted British nationality. The son did not return to South Africa till 1912, when he joined his father in business at Johannesburg.

Question.—What is the present nationality of the father and of the son?

Answer.—The father is a British subject by annexation. The son is a German subject by place of birth and by parentage.

Question.—Suppose the son returns to Johannesburg in 1910, is his nationality affected?

Answer.—Yes; he comes to reside with his father while a minor, and therefore takes the nationality which his father acquired by annexation while the son was a minor. The son has, however, dual nationality because of his place of birth.

Question.—Suppose the son had been born in South Africa in 1890, either in

(a) the Transvaal; or

(b) Natal,

how would this affect the position?

Answer.—In both cases he would be a British subject if he returned to South Africa in 1910, but if he did not return till 1912, he would

in case (a) be a German subject,
in case (b) be of dual nationality.

Question.—Explain the reasons for the answers to the last question.

Answer.—(a) If the son was born in the Transvaal in 1890, he would, but for the annexation, have eventually become a Transvaal burgher by place of birth, and would be a German subject by parentage. If he left South Africa in 1899, and returned in 1910 he acquires the nationality of his father, which was that of a British subject by annexation. If, however, he did not return till 1912, the fact of his father having become a Transvaal burgher and then a British subject by annexation does not affect him. He cannot claim British nationality by having been born in the Transvaal when it was not British territory.

(b) He is a British subject by place of birth, and if he returns to British South Africa in 1910, acquires the nationality of his father which became that of a British subject by annexation. If, however, he does not return till 1912, he is a British subject by place of birth, and a German subject by parentage, seeing that he was in foreign territory while a minor, and while his father acquired another nationality by becoming a burgher of the Transvaal, and then by annexation. If, of course, he had on attaining the age of 21 in 1911, under the Imperial Naturalization Act divested himself of his status of British subject, the question of dual nationality would fall to the ground, and he would be a German subject only.

INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFICIALS, FIELD CORNETS AND POLICE OFFICERS
ASSISTING WITH THE REGISTRATION OF CITIZENS UNDER SECTION 53
OF THE SOUTH AFRICA DEFENCE ACT, 1912.

Instructions on the above subject were circulated to all concerned; they laid down that registration would commence on January 2nd, 1913. An acknowledgment receipt is given to each citizen on registration; for every such registration the field cornet receives a remuneration of one shilling (maximum payment £10). The registration forms, as filled in, are forwarded daily to the District Staff Officer, who acts as Registering Officer and by whom the certificates of registration are made out and posted to citizens. Points, upon which further information is desired, will be referred to the resident magistrate of the District. After 15th January, 1913, outlying districts are to be visited by police officers in order to assist those to comply with the law who reside long distances from a field cornet.

These instructions are printed in English and Dutch, and are also distributed in the form of posters in both languages.

SOUTH AFRICA DEFENCE ACT, 1912.

FORM OF REGISTRATION—[under Section 53 (2)]

Registration No. Military District.

Magisterial District.

NOTE.—The above particulars will be filled in by the Registering Officer.

GIVE BELOW IN CLEAR DISTINCT WRITING IN INK :—

1. Your full name

2. (a) The year of your birth (in figures)..... (b) Your age (in figures).....

3. The place where you were born

Number of house and name of street

4. (a) The full postal address of your permanent place of residence (P.O. Box number only will not suffice).

or

Name and, if possible, registered number of Farm

Post Office

Magisterial District

Province

(b) How far is it from the nearest Post Office?

(c) What is the nearest Railway Station, and how far is it away?

5. (a) If you are not at present at your place of residence given under 4 (a), give the name and address of the person with whom you are living.

Name

Number of house and name of street

or

Name and, if possible, registered number of Farm

Post Office

Magisterial District

Province

(b) If you are at a school or college, give its name and address

6. (a) Who is your nearest relation or guardian?

Relationship

Name

Number of house and name of street

(b) What is his (or her) address?

Name and, if possible, registered number of Farm

Post Office

Magisterial District

Province

Country (if outside the Union)

7. (a) What is your employment?

(b) Give name and address of your employer.

8. (a) Do you wish to enter voluntarily this year?

(b) If so, do you prefer to bring a horse, saddle, and bridle, and be trained as a mounted man? If you cannot do so you will be trained for dismounted duties.

9. Sign your name to the following declaration:—

I, the undersigned, hereby solemnly declare that in this statement I have given the full and correct particulars required of me according to law

Date..... (Signature).....

Place

Acknowledgment receipt No. issued by me.

(Signature and designation of official taking registration.).....

NOTE THIS CAREFULLY.

You may voluntarily enter for four annual courses of training in the Active Citizen Force, which will begin during the latter half of this year (1913), and you will then be doing your full duty as a citizen of the Union. You will be paid for the days when you are training in camp.

IF YOU BECOME 21 YEARS OF AGE THIS YEAR (1913) and do not enter voluntarily for training in the Active Citizen Force, then either

(a) you will be drawn by ballot and compelled to undergo that training; or

(b) if you are not drawn by ballot, then you will be compelled to undergo four annual courses of training in a rifle association.

Before filling in this address, read No. 5 (a).

You need not answer these two questions if your place of residence given under 4 (a) is a town.

Before answering these two questions read carefully the note at the end of form.

APPENDIX II.: TRAINING.

Regulations for Course of Peace Training, Active Citizen Force.

1. The course of peace training in the Active Citizen Force shall be as follows:—

FIRST YEAR'S (RECRUIT) TRAINING.

Arm.	Training.		Total (Maximum 30 days.)
	Continuous (Max. 22 days.)	Non-continuous. ¹	
	days.	days.	
Field Artillery	15	8	23
Engineers	12	10	22
Mounted Troops	22	3	25
Infantry	12	10	22
Departmental Services ...	12	10	22

¹ To include musketry.

ANNUAL TRAINING FOR OTHER THAN RECRUITS.

	Training.			Total (Max. 21 days.)
	Continuous (Max. 15 days.)	Non-continuous.		
		Training.	Musketry.	
	days.			
Field Artillery	15	5	1	21
Engineers	10	5	3	18
Mounted Troops	15	—	3	18
Infantry	10	5	3	18
Departmental Services ...	10	5	1	16

2. The equivalents referred to in section *sixty-four* (3) of the Act shall be applied as may be decided from time to time as training necessitates, and the requirements of each arm in the various military districts suggest.

3. (a) The periods of continuous training laid down in paragraph 1 shall not be broken except in the case of field artillery, the continuous training of which may be broken into not more than two periods.

(b) Members of Militia and Volunteer Corps who have transferred to the Active Citizen Force under sections *forty-six* (1) (a) and *forty-eight* (a) of the Act, and who have been returned as efficient for not less than two years during their Militia or Volunteer service, may be granted leave of absence from continuous training by their commanding officer for a maximum number of days, to be fixed by the Commandant-General, Citizen Force, in the case of each unit.

4. The days of non-continuous training laid down for recruits represent the maximum number, and any recruit who, during his course of instruction, may be found by a Regimental Board consisting of the Regimental Commander, an officer not below the rank of captain, and the adjutant, to be fit for the ranks as a trained man, shall cease to be trained as a recruit and shall continue his training as a trained man.

5. A recruit who, before performing the full number of recruit drills is classed in terms of regulation 4 as a trained man, shall complete the rest of his first year's training as a trained man, but shall not fire the trained man's course of musketry till his second year of service.

6. Continuous training shall mean field training for an unbroken period of days of twenty-four hours each whilst in camp or bivouac, and is referred to hereinafter as field training.

7. Field training shall begin from a time and date to be specified in orders, and shall conclude on a date and at a time similarly specified.

8. The days appointed for non-continuous training during the training year shall be fixed and notified at the beginning of the year, and the notice shall set forth the number of hours training to be performed on any day so appointed.

Any alteration to these dates and hours shall be notified not less than 30 days beforehand.

9. To provide for the complete training of citizens who are unavoidably prevented from attending for any period of non-continuous training, and whose absence from such training is duly authorized by the commanding officer of their unit, casualty drills shall be arranged for each unit in such numbers and on such occasions as may be necessary in view of the number of casualties and the number of drills which they have to attend to complete the attendances demanded from them.

10. A citizen who absents himself from non-continuous training without being duly authorized by the commanding officer of his unit, as provided in the last preceding regulation, shall be charged with an offence under section *one hundred and nine* of the Act.

APPENDIX III.: PAY AND ALLOWANCES.—ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE.

REGULATIONS FOR PAY AND ALLOWANCES, ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE.

1. The daily rates of pay for members of the Active Citizen Force, when they are engaged on continuous training, shall be as follows:—

	s.	d.
Lieut.-Colonel	20	0
Major	15	0
Captain	12	6
Lieutenant	10	0
Paymasters, quartermasters, medical officers, veterinary officers	The pay of the rank allotted to them.	
Warrant officers	6	0
Staff-sergeants	5	0
Sergeants	4	6
Corporals	3	6
Bombardiers and lance-corporals	3	3
Gunners, privates, trumpeters, and buglers	3	0

2. A citizen who

- (a) having completed four years' peace training in the Active Citizen Force, or
- (b) having been transferred to the Active Citizen Force from a Militia or Volunteer Corps, with not less than five years' "efficient" service in that corps,

is engaged to continue his service in that Force, as a non commissioned officer in or above the rank of sergeant, may receive an allowance at the following rate:—

	s.	d.
During continuous training	1	0 a day
For every day's attendance at non-continuous training	3	0 „
For every attendance for training for a period of four hours	2	0 „
For every attendance for training for a period of an hour and a half	1	0 „

Payment of the allowance for continuous training shall be made at the conclusion of the said training, and at the end of every quarter in arrear for other attendances.

3. During days of continuous training, all ranks of the Active Citizen Force may receive rations at the public expense, or an allowance in lieu of rations not exceeding 1s. 6d. for each such period.

For a period of one day's training lasting eight hours all ranks of the Active Citizen Force may receive rations at the public expense, or an allowance in lieu of rations not exceeding 1s. for each such period.

4. Forage may be supplied at the public expense for every authorized horse used during days of continuous training, or a cash allowance not exceeding 1s. 6d. a day may be paid in lieu of supply. For a period of one day's training lasting eight hours, forage may be supplied at the public expense, or an allowance not exceeding 1s. a day may be paid in lieu of supply.

5. Rail transport at Government expense may be provided (in accordance with instructions issued to district staff officers) to members of the Active Citizen Force proceeding to or returning from places appointed for their training and exercise. Rations, or the allowance in lieu, will be given to members while so travelling if the journey either way necessarily occupies eight hours or more.

6. The following allowances may be paid to qualified signallers and machine-gunners of the Active Citizen Force on the establishment of a unit:—

	s.	d.
Signallers	2	0 a day
Machine-gunners	1	0 „

for every day of continuous training, and for each attendance of a period of not less than eight hours.

Payment of these allowances shall be made as in the case of the senior non-commissioned officers' allowance as laid down in paragraph 2 of these regulations.

7. The following allowances shall be paid to members of the Active Citizen Force in respect of attendance on the occasions indicated:—

Attachment to Regular Forces (Imperial or South African);

Attendance at special courses or schools of instruction:

	s.	d.
Officers	12	6 per diem.
Other ranks	7	6 „

The grant of the above allowances shall be subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) That a proficiency certificate is awarded at the conclusion of the period or course of instruction; or
- (b) If no proficiency certificate is issuable, a certificate is issued by the officer in charge of the course that the member attending has been regular and attentive under instruction, and has made satisfactory progress in the subjects taught;
- (c) In special cases, where the above conditions are not fulfilled, the Minister may, upon the recommendation of the Commandant-General, authorize the grant of the allowance.

8. The allowances laid down in paragraph 7 may be applied whenever the special attendance of individual members is required on occasions other than those prescribed for military training, in circumstances involving personal expense, for which no specific allowance is laid down.

9. Officers and other ranks of the Active Citizen Force who are required or permitted to undertake any attendance or duty for which an allowance is admissible under the two foregoing paragraphs may, while travelling to and from the place of attendance or duty, be granted travelling and subsistence allowance at the rates laid down for corresponding ranks of the Permanent Force.

APPENDIX IV.

EMBODIMENT OF MILITIA AND VOLUNTEER CORPS IN ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE.

MINIMUM QUOTAS TO BE FURNISHED BY CORPS UNDER SECTION FORTY-SIX
(1) OF THE S.A. DEFENCE ACT, 1912, TO BE EMBODIED AND TRAINED
AS PART OF THE ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE ON AND AFTER JULY 1ST, 1913.

1st Column (Name of Unit).	2nd Column [Clauses (a) and (b)].	3rd Column [Clause (a)].	4th Column [Clause (b)].
<i>Cape Province—</i>			
Cape Field Artillery (1)	-	34	13
Cape Light Horse	312	150	94
D.E.O.V. Rifles (2)... ..	256	111	77
P.A.V. Guard (2), (3)	151	50	45
Queenstown V.R. (4)	118	38	35
First City Volunteers (4)	138	44	42
Kaffrarian Rifles	256	86	77
Kimberley Regiment	256	65	77
D.C.S.O. Capetown Highlanders	256	81	77
Uitenhage Volunteer Rifles (3)	105	35	32
P.W.O.R. Cape Peninsula Rifles	256	76	77
Cape Medical Corps (5), (6)	40	12 A Co.	12
	40	12 B Co.	12

1st Column (Name of Unit).	2nd Column [Clauses (a) and (b)].	3rd Column [Clause (a)].	4th Column [Clause (b)].
<i>Natal Province—</i>			
Natal Carabineers	312	125	94
Natal Mounted Rifles (7) ...	85	61	24
Umvoti Mounted Rifles (7) ...	80	56	24
Border Mounted Rifles (7) ...	73	49	24
Zululand Mounted Rifles (7) ...	74	50	24
"C" Battery, Natal Field Artillery (1)	45	19	13
Durban Light Infantry ...	256	100	77
Natal Medical Corps (6) ...	80	24	24
Natal Telegraph Corps (6) ...	—	18	4
<i>Transvaal Province—</i>			
Transvaal Horse Artillery (1) ...	45	22	13
Imperial Light Horse ...	312	125	94
Transvaal Scottish... ..	256	100	77
Witwatersrand Rifles ...	256	125	77
Transvaal Cycle and Motor Corps (8) ...	256	100	77
Transvaal Signalling and F.T. Co. (6)...	—	24	8
Transvaal Medical Corps (6) ...	126	50	37

Notes.

1. These units to be designated the 6th, 7th, and 8th Citizen Batteries respectively, retaining the old regimental title in brackets after that designation.

2. The term "volunteer" will be omitted from these corps.

3. Uitenhage Volunteer Rifles to become part of P.A. Guard, retaining as a company of that battalion the title "Uitenhage" in brackets after the alphabet letter of the company.

4. Q.R. Volunteers and 1st City Volunteers to become one infantry battalion to be styled "The City Rifles," two companies of which will retain the title "Queenstown" and two companies the title "First City" in brackets after the alphabet letter of the company.

5. Two companies of 50. "A" Company, Kingwilliamstown, "B" Company, Capetown.

6. The designations of these corps are subject to alteration on or after embodiment.

7. Each of these regimental units on embodiment to become a squadron unit of a regiment to be styled "The Natal Mounted Rifles." B, C, and D squadrons to retain their old regimental titles placed in brackets after the alphabet letter of the squadron.

8. To be allotted a different designation on embodiment in the Active Citizen Force; to be determined later.