

RAYLEIGH VOLUNTEER TRAINING CORPS

At a meeting of the volunteer Training Corps , held at the Council Schools on Wednesday , and which was reported in our last issue ,the following committee and officers were elected ; E.C. Phillips , B. Acres, E. Burrows, E.B. Francis, E.C. Phillips be appointed drill instructor , with Messrs. Robinson and Edwards as deputies. There were 37 names given in as willing to join, and Mr. Burrows kindly offered the use of his room for headquarters and his field for drilling. The first parade and drill of the above Corps took place on Monday in the new motor garage, Kingsleigh House Rayleigh, lent for the purpose by Mr. H. King. Fifty one members paraded out of an enrolled strength of 65, which was very satisfactory, considering the roughness of the weather. The newly appointed commandant, Mr. E. Phillips, of Lynwood, Eastwood Road (who served throughout the late Boer War) assisted by Sergeant. Edwards, drilled the company, and at the conclusion of the drill expressed himself as highly pleased with the smart and intelligent manner in which the men had performed the various movements, and considering that it was the time that many of them had ever been drilled, he felt sure that if Lord Kitchener had been present he would have expressed his pleasure at the smartness of the men.

Considering that the average age of the men on parade was 44 years ,he felt that England had nothing to fear whilst men who were usually considered past military age, would respond in the way the men paraded before him has done . Mr. Phillips heartily thanked the men for the close attention they had paid to his instructions, and the manner in which they had carried them out, and he felt it an honour and a pleasure to command such a body of men. Drills will be held every Monday and Thursday at 8.15 p.m.

For reference

<http://www.essexregiment.co.uk/vtc.html>

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