

# Victorians at Beacon Hill Camp Fifty Years Ago



Mr. Edgar Fawcett writes: "Under the heading of Fifty Years Ago Today I noted in Wednesday's Colonist the account of the first going into camp of the Victoria Rifle Volunteers, of which I was an enthusiastic member, holding the rank of sergeant. I well remember this occasion, and incidents of the 'tented field.' So far as I can remember the names of those mustered, I have given. The officers are on the left, only one, Captain E. H. Fletcher, now post office inspector, being with us today; also Pte. Jules Dassooville, Cpl. F. R. Sargison, Edgar Fawcett, sergeant, and Pat Dessy, drummer-boy. We mustered ninety odd, but it was only at night that we were at full strength, as nearly all left for their various avocations after breakfast. We had many social entertainments in the evening. One of these was a dinner to the Governor, which was prepared wholly by local talent. The cooks on this occasion were Lieut. Wood, who was Solicitor-General, Chaplain Thomas Somerville, and your humble servant. We had fish, roast, grouse and chicken with pastry, and two kinds of vegetables that I prepared. After dinner there was an impromptu concert. There was something going on every evening, so there were many visitors. So ends another reminiscence of Old Victoria! In the above group, the three officers—Captain Green, Captain Dorman and Captain E. H. Fletcher—are on the extreme left, and included among the others are Sergts. Woollacott, C. S. Finlaison, Pte. R. Plummer, Pte. J. Dassooville, Pte. Lakin, Cpl. F. Sargison, Sergt. J. P. Kennedy, Sergt. Edgar Fawcett, Pte. Homfray, Pte. E. Wootton, Pte. Dacry, and Drummer Pat Dessy, besides Mr. Kenley, of Clover Point."