

CARE OF INVALID SOLDIERS.

Amongst the invalid soldiers returning to Canada from overseas there are many cases requiring care from the time of their arrival until they reach their individual homes. The duty of looking after these men during this period is undertaken by the Military Hospitals Commission and requires that the returned men shall be in the constant charge of a competent Military Official until they are safely restored to their families. Some of the badly maimed and the "shell-shock" cases, more particularly, need much sympathetic and patient personal attention. Recently Sergt. Maj. Joseph P. Monaghan of the 63rd. Regiment Halifax Rifles was detailed to take a party of ~~these~~ these men to their homes at various points from Halifax to the Pacific coast and the ~~report~~ reports of his successful management of the cases under his charge so favorably impressed the Department that they applied for and obtained his release from duty with the 63rd. Regiment and appointed him to the duty of accompanying returned soldiers to their homes.

Sergt. Maj. Monaghan has had 21 years' continuous service in "B" Company 63rd. Regiment Halifax Rifles and wears the long service medal. The regiment was reluctant to part with "Joe" and as an evidence of the esteem in which he is held he was paraded before his Company, at MacNab's Island, before severing his connection therewith and presented with a handsome gold-headed malacca cane by Captain O. F. Vossnack, on behalf of the Officers and with a luminous dial silver hunting case wrist watch, on behalf of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, both suitably engraved. The customary speeches accompanied the proceedings in which regret was expressed at his leaving the Regiment, tempered with the knowledge that he was not leaving the Service and that he was about to take up the performance of a most humane and useful duty for which he is well qualified. The Sergeant Major's reply of thanks was punctuated with good advice to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.

During 21 years the ~~Serjt~~ Sergeant Major has seen

many changes in the Old 63rd. It is not generally known or appreciated by the public that there are not now in the 63rd. many of the men who composed the regiment at the commencement of the war. Not only have a great many of the original members themselves gone to the Front but hundreds of new recruits who joined since 1914 drilled and trained with the 63rd. and were drafted into the Overseas forces, including both officers and men. Many 63rd. men lie in heroes graves in Flanders and in France.

Up to the outbreak of the war Sergt. Maj. Monaghan was on the staff of the Nova Scotis Furnishing Company. His brother Lieut. James D. Monaghan is Quartermaster of the Regiment. Five Monaghan brothers served in "B" Company 63rd., two of whom saw active service with the Composite Battalion which went from Halifax to the North West in 1885 to surpress the Reil rebellion.