

(For issue to Officers  
commanding Units only.)

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## Drunkenness amongst Troops.

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His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has lately been compelled to close two Public Houses to members of His Majesty's Forces, and additional houses will be closed unless there is a marked improvement in their conduct in the near future. It has further been necessary to limit the hours during which members of His Majesty's Forces can enter licensed premises to eight per diem. These restrictions have been rendered necessary by the conduct of certain of the Troops in the Island.

His Excellency's attention has, in addition, been directed to cases where men have paraded in a drunken condition for duty and where men have obtained access to drink whilst on duty.

The Lieutenant-Governor cannot too firmly impress on Company Commanders the necessity for using the utmost vigilance over their men in these directions and of giving exemplary punishments when offences occur. To allow cases to pass unnoticed or to be treated leniently only encourages the offender to repeat the offence, and consequently the troops suffer generally by restrictions which have been necessitated by the misconduct of a few.

Drunkenness in time of peace is quite distinct from drunkenness on active service, and a man who is drunk when guarding prisoners of war should be dealt with most severely. His Excellency hopes that all Company Officers will use their best endeavours to suppress drunkenness amongst their men by dealing firmly with cases which arise.

By order,

B. E. SARGEAUNT,

Government Secretary.

Government Office,  
Isle of Man,  
28 May, 1915.