

those mentioned above were noticed, Captain Rankin, R.S.; Captain Dobbin, P. W. R.; Captain Brush, late M.G.A.; Miss Farley, St. Thomas; Miss Scott, Miss Adem, Miss Fisher, Miss Lamplough and Messrs. Phillips, Haycock, Cole, Dowsley and Lockwood.

There was a jolly time at the Victoria Rifles' armory Tuesday evening March 27, when Lieut.-Col. Starke and his officers, besides others, wished good-by to the ranks of bachelorhood to their guest of the evening, Lieut.-Col. Henshaw, Lieut.-Col. Starke's predecessor in command of the "Vics." Lieut.-Col. Starke was the chairman of the affair, which took the form of a dinner in the newly-decorated officers' mess, and had on his right the guest of the evening, while among the others present were Lieut.-Col. Gray, superintendent of stores 5th military district; Lieut.-Col. Whitehead, another of the Vics' old C.O.'s; Lieut.-Col. Strathy, Royal Scots; Surgeon-Major Campbell, Royal Regiment Canadian Infantry; Majors Simme, Busted and Radiger, Vics.; Capt. Wm. Stanley, and L. Sutherland, Victoria Rifles reserves; Capt. Clark, Duke of Connaught Royal Canadian Hussars; Captains Rodden, Meakins, Pope, Guy, Hamilton and Leslie, and Lieut. A. J. Hibbard, Vics.; Lieut. Mehaiger, Queen's Own, Toronto; Messrs. Charles Cassile, Phil. Scott, Geo. W. Hamilton, F. E. Green, Geo. Gillespie G. W. McDougall, Edgar McDougall and James Wardlow, Montreal, and J. E. Morin, Toronto. After the inner man had been attended to with substantials Lieut.-Col. Starke proposed the health of the guest of the evening, which was seconded by Captain W. Stanley, on behalf of the reserves. Lieut.-Colonel Henshaw made a happy response, and said he had always endeavored to do his best as a bachelor and would endeavor to do the same as a benedict. Other speeches and songs took up the evening, and the farewell concluded with the health of the Queen.

The Victoria Rifles have accepted the invitation of the Princess of Wales Own Rifles (14th battalion), Kingston, to pay a visit to that city on the Queen's Birthday and participate there in the celebration of the day, one of the features of which will be a military tournament. The Vics will leave here on the evening of the 23rd of May, and besides both bands, the Maxim gun and its detachment will go along.

The sergeants of the Prince of Wales Rifles celebrated the Easter season by holding a dance March 26th, at their armory, which was a success in every way. There were about forty couples present and all had a good time, thanks to the energetic committee composed of Col. Sergts. Dance and Cunningham, Staff-Sergeants Donaldson and Cooper and Sergeants Ferguson and Lindeay.

The annual meeting of the Sixth Fusilier's Rifle association, which was held April 2, at their armory, was one of the best attended for many years, Major Macaulay was the chairman. Over the Canadian Military Rifle league the members "practically all present" acted differently from those of other rifle associations which have held their meeting this year, for they passed a resolution that they would enter the league again whether Martini or Snider were shot, and then wound it up with a rider that they recommended the Sniders for the league matches. The first business before the meeting, after the minutes had been passed, was the presentation of the secretary's report as follows:

In presenting the report of the past year's work, I can refer with pleasure to the fact that our representatives have again main-

tained their long held record for first-class shooting. In all the open matches of the year where we had teams entered our scores won us honor, and we are to-day, as we have been for years, one of the best shooting battalions in the Dominion, as our record not only in local matches, but also in the P. Q. R. association meet, where we won that much coveted trophy, the Carlslake cup, and in the Military league matches, in which our aggregate gave us seventh place. We had our annual matches on the 12th August, the attendance being very good. In this connection I may say that the practice for some years past of presenting the prizes months after they have been won has been unsatisfactory and in future all prizes won at our annual matches will be presented within two weeks from the day they were shot for. This is a much needed reform and will be faithfully carried out. At the annual meet of the P.Q.R.A. our members covered themselves with glory, but we did not do so well at the Dominion Rifle association meet in Ottawa.

Instead of following the practice of the last few years of catering for ourselves in camp at Ottawa we stopped at the hotels, and I think it will be freely admitted that the latter course is much more satisfactory, and besides we save considerable money by doing so. The greatest social event during the D. R. A. meet was the ball given at the Russell, which not only gave pleasure to many, but also established a precedent which may be followed by other corps in the future.

A question which you will probably be called upon to discuss is whether we will enter a team in the Canadian Military league if the Snider rifle is to be used. This matter should be very carefully considered before any decision is made, as the question naturally arises: We will be justified in declining to enter because a certain rifle is used, when that rifle is the arm that we would be compelled to use to-morrow should we be called upon active service?

Before closing I want all members of the regiment to remember that they are also members of the rifle association and that their subscriptions are paid out of the regimental funds. I do not think that this fact has been generally understood, otherwise we would have had more members of the battalion take an interest in the association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. FINDLAY, Capt.,  
Secretary-treasurer.

A discussion then ensued on the points enumerated above, and after these were passed the secretary's report was unanimously adopted with a vote of thanks for his hard work. Then new business came up and it was decided to hold the annual matches on August 11 if the P. Q. R. A. matches were not held in that month, and if they were, on the Saturday following the latter matches. Under the same head the *Gazette* was voted unanimously the thanks of the association for the presentation of a cup for the "green" shots of the regiment, and it was left to the to be elected committee to decide the classification of shots for the *Gazette's* prize. The election of officers followed, and resulted as follows: President, Lieut.-Col. Burland; first vice-president, Lieut.-Col. Masey; second vice-president, Major Macaulay; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. Henderson; captains of teams, Capt. E. J. Chambers and W. E. Findlay; executive committee, A. Co., Color-Sergt. Riddle; B Co., Color-Sergt. Howard; C Co., Color-Sergt. Morrison; D Co., Color-Sergt. Beatty; E Co., Color-Sergt. Marks; F Co., Color-Sergt. Pratt; Sergt. G. Lavers to represent the non commissioned staff; Pte. T. Scott to represent the fife and drum band; executive officer, Lt.-Col. Burland; delegates to the M. R. A., Major Macaulay, Capt. Findlay, Lieut. Henderson, Col.-Sergt. Howard and Private Jehu. After a vote of thanks to Lieut.-Col. Masey for providing quarters for the rifle association of the regiment and assistance in carrying on the work, and another to the chairman, the meeting adjourned.

### St. Johns.

On Thursday evening, March 26th, the officers at the Royal School of Infantry, St. Johns, held their monthly guest night, and it was one of the largest and most enjoyable they have had for some time. Twenty-nine sat down to do justice to the menu which was all that could be desired. The band, under the able leadership of Bandmaster Ringuet, rendered several ex-

cellent selections. Among the number seated around the festive board were noticed: Lieut.-Col. d'Orsonnens, commandant; Lieut.-Col. Strathy, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut.-Col. Aubry, 85th Batt.; Surgeon-Major Campbell, R.R.C.I.; Major Young, R.R.C.I.; Major Ibbotson, 5th Royal Scots; Major Trotter, retired list; Capt. Chinic, Adj. R.R.C.I.; Captain Chambers, 6th Fusiliers; Capt. Findlay, 6th Fusiliers; Capt. Johnson, 84th Batt.; Lieut. Fages, R.R.C.I.; Lieut. Spearing, 53rd Batt.; Lieut. Taschereau, 87th Batt.; Lieut. Pare, 17th Batt.; Lieut. Rousseau, 84th Batt.; Lieut. Forbes, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. Meighan, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. Campbell, 5th Royal Scots; Lieut. McAdam, 3rd Victoria Rifles; Lieut. W. B. Converse, 6th Fusiliers; Mr. Whatley, St. Johns, and Mr. Kelly, Montreal. The winter course, which finished March 31st, was a most successful one, there being 13 attached officers and about 40 rank and file.

### Quebec.

For the first time since the Imperial Government withdrew its garrison a detachment of regular troops passed through Quebec on the night of March 20th, en route from England to the Pacific coast. Unusual as was the event it attracted but little attention, and very few people and not a single soldier were on hand to welcome them. The detachment consisted of 55 men of the Royal Marine Artillery under command of Major Rawstone. They came out by the Allan steamship "Laurentian," arriving at Halifax on the 20th ult, and after a somewhat long, but not unpleasant passage, they arrived at Levis shortly before 5 p.m. and crossed by ferry in the midst of a heavy snowstorm. The men were in heavy marching order, with overcoats strapped and without any protection from the weather other than the waterproof cape covering their shoulders. They, of course, wear the artillery uniform and white helmets, and the only difference between them and our own troops is that they wear white woollen gloves and have no spikes in their boots to give them a foothold in the snow. In spite of this they marched as if they had been accustomed to snow roads all their lives, although by their sunburned faces it was clear that they had been accustomed to warmer climates than that of Canada. They are fine, tall, well built men, every one of them, and would be a credit to any service. A more soldierlike body never trod the streets of Quebec. The Canadian Pacific railway had brought the commissariat cars down to within a quarter of a mile of the ferry and the men marched the intervening distance. Surgeon J. C. Wood, R.N., and Mrs. Rawstone and maid accompanied the detachment and with Maj. Rawstone dined at the Chateau Frontenac, the men being provided with supper aboard the cars. Major Rawstone and Surgeon Wood called on Colonel Montizambert, commandant at the Citadel, during the evening and left with the detachment by the Canadian Pacific railway train at 10 p.m. They are on their way to the fortifications at E.-qui-maux to do garrison duty and mount guns on the new fortifications. This work is to be completed in five years. The men are all long service men, being enlisted for 21 years, short service not having been adopted in the Marines, and most of the men have put in from five to ten years in the service. Some have even put in from 15 to 20 years. Among them is a man who had a terrible experience. His name is James Sawyer and he was on board H. M. S. "Victoria" when she was run down and sunk. At the request of Major Rawstone he recounted his experience. He had just been relieved and gone to sleep when the accident occurred. He ran with