

REGIMENTAL.

NOVA SCOTIA NEWS.

The Sydney Field Battery has commenced voluntary drill preparatory to camp. It is thought that the Battery will camp this year in Sydney.

It is rumoured that a strong effort will be made during the ensuing session of the House to increase the strength of the 94th Battalion from five companies to eight. In Annapolis County there are two battalions—the 69th and 72nd—the former of nine companies and the latter six. When the importance of Cape Breton Island is considered, it would seem that a strong case should be made for the projected increase of the 94th.

The force in Halifax still suffers for want of a modern drill shed. In spite of drawbacks from this source the different corps are determined to make this season's drill beat the record. The 66th P. L. S. have a class well advanced in signalling. The pioneer outfit has arrived from England. The 63rd are resenting the somewhat disparaging remarks made by the inspecting officer, *vide* annual report, and which many think the battalion did not deserve. The Brigade of Artillery are working hard, and some of the batteries will this year come very near the top when the inspection is concluded.

The troubles at District Headquarters are now public property, the newspapers having spread the same to the four quarters. I offer no opinion as to the merits of the different disputants, but must remark that the whole affair is unfortunate, to say the least. It begins to look as it matters in this district must be pulled together with a strong hand, otherwise misfortune sure and certain will overtake us.

The appointment of Major Weston, 66th Battalion, to command the Bisley team meets with universal approval. It is a graceful tribute to a province that has in the past (and will in the future, too, done its fair) share towards upholding Canada's credit in the shooting line.

TORONTO.

Her Majesty's army and navy veterans held a very successful concert at the Auditorium on Monday night last, the 20th inst., one result of which will be a considerable increase to their treasury. Major-Gen. Herbert came up from Ottawa to attend, and between the first and second part of the programme addressed a few remarks to the members of the society. General Herbert has consented to become a life member. The following artists were responsible for the success of the entertainment:—Miss M. E. Laverty, Miss B. R. Emslie, Miss L. Fletcher, Miss M. Marie, Mr. F. Eddis, Sergts. Mess Q. O. R. Glee Club, Mr. G. A. Saunders, Mr. Chas. S. Boucher, Mr. Geo. Baxter, Prof. Bohner, Mr. W. M. Robinson and the fine band of the society.

The Sheridan Dramatic Club of this city will produce, under the patronage of Lt.-Col. Hamilton and Officers of the Q. O. Rifles, the three act society comedy, "On Guard," at one of the opera houses, May 15th. The cast comprises the following:—Miss Bunting, Miss May Walker, Messrs. Douglas Armour, Willie Macdonnell, Stuart Morrison, V. Chadwick, McG. Young and H. Melville Boddy.

While Major-Gen. Herbert was in town it was thought that, perhaps, he would set the wheels in motion towards settling a site for the new rifle ranges. An appointment was arranged for 10 o'clock for the members of Ald. Score's Committee to meet the Major-General, but with a supreme effort of not appearing too keen in their management of the city endeavour to obtain possession of the garrison ranges, they, in their great wisdom, decided that they would be *ultra* fashionable and appear about an hour late. This, they did, and to their surprise they were politely informed that their hour for their appointment was long past and another

engagement at the time they called prevented the Major-General from receiving them. Upon one of the Aldermen commenting on the tardiness of the committee, he was rebuked with the remark from Chairman Score, "that he did not think the Major-General lost any sleep that night on account of not meeting the deputation." Ald. Score ought to remember that as far as the volunteers are concerned, while they admit that the present ranges are not so safe as they might be, and have so often expressed their willingness to further any endeavour to provide a safer one, still they wish the people of Toronto to distinctly understand that when any expressions are made regarding the danger attached to the present range, they must lay the blame on the proper shoulders and not blame the volunteers or their representatives, for the delay and tardiness in getting down to work of this committee.

The largest parade of the Queen's Own was held on Wednesday evening last, 22nd inst., under command of Lt.-Col. Hamilton. The regiment paraded 558 strong and 69 recruits in the different classes, four of the companies, namely, A D F and G, having twenty-eight files or over on parade. On Col. Hamilton taking over the parade from the Adjutant, Capt. Macdonald, he ordered "Officers take post," and immediately after, "General salute," as Major-General Herbert, accompanied by Lt.-Col. Otter, D.A.G., and Capt. Streatfield entered the shed. A brief inspection of each company then took place, and certainly gave the General a splendid idea as to the total inadequateness of the drill shed for a regiment the size of the Queen's Own. Column of route was then formed, and, headed by both bands, the regiment marched to Wellington street, where Major-General Herbert inspected it at the march past in column and quarter-column, after which the companies were marched off for company drill. On the return to the shed Col. Hamilton expressed to the regiment the satisfaction and gratification of the Major-General at the appearance of the men, the cleanliness of the arms and accoutrements, and the marching he stated as being superb. Col. Hamilton then spoke for a short time of the rifle ranges, and urged the shooting men of the different corps to go out and make themselves familiar with the different ranges, one of which was at Mount Dennis, another near Port Credit, another at Hogg's Hollow.

The Q. O. R. Amateur Athletic Association are preparing for a big meet at Rosedale on Saturday, 18th July. I will send complete programme in next week's letter.

Major-General Herbert and Capt. Streatfield returned to Ottawa Thursday morning.

About 20 representatives of the Grenadiers drove out on Saturday to inspect the range at Mt. Dennis, and I believe expressed themselves very highly pleased at the prospect of obtaining it.

Speaking of rifle ranges, just reminds me about a range at Hogg's Hollow which somebody is making an attempt to bring forward as one suitable to the requirements of the force. A member of the Queen's Own and a member of the Grenadiers started off to reach it, which they did after about an hour's journey, taking Toronto Street Railway and Electric Railway. Coming home they made for the Electric railway, but were met with the remark that the car had broken down and would not be repaired until about three hours later. As the only conveyance round the place is stage, which did not leave for another hour, these worthies undertook to tramp it, and all the advocate of Hogg's Hollow range has to do is to interview these gentlemen and get a square and candid opinion.

BREECH BLOCK.

MAJOR MASON.

Military men in the city will be very sorry to hear of the retirement of Major Mason, of the Royal Grenadiers. Although he has resigned his commission in the Grenadiers, it is hoped that this does not close his military career, for it