

quently a greater expenditure for ammunition. Then there is the disagreeable task of taking care of two rifles, taking them to competitions and lugging them around the range, not knowing where to leave them. It is disagreeable and, I think, an unnecessary expense.

If there are, as reported, a large number of Martinis in store, why not issue them as far as they will go?

Another consideration is the cost of ammunition. If in England the volunteers can buy their ammunition for 10 cents or less, I should think that the Canadian Government could supply it at 15 cents. If the money that it costs to keep up the League was used to reduce the cost of ammunition to volunteers in general I think that it would be more beneficial to shooting in general, there would be better scores made or more of them at the Dominion and Provincial matches instead of on paper at the home ranges. It would be an encouragement to honest shooting instead of to trickery, and those winning prizes would not be ashamed to walk up and accept them on presentation day.

I have often wondered why those taking active or foremost positions in the management of the Provincial and Dominion matches were not greater advocates of doing away with the Snider rifle, unless it is that there are quite a number of them that are officers of management and are not shooting men, or that the Government Ammunition Factory had to be patronized.

I think that every shooting man should use every endeavour with their respective representatives at Parliament to bring this change about, and as we are not a few I think it would have some effect. If it is worth having it is worth asking for, and it is not at all likely the change will be made until we do ask for it.

Hoping that we will hear from others on this matter and that it is not too late to have the change made this year,

I remain, Yours respectfully,

MARTINI.

Notwithstanding all the exertions which Germany has made during the past two decades to increase her army it still remains numerically inferior to that of France by some 40,000 men. Moreover, Germany possesses only 2,184 field guns, whereas France has no less than 2,280 ready for war. Alarmed by this discrepancy, Emperor William is bringing every influence to bear on the reichstag with a view of inducing it to consent to the increase of the imperial army. It is claimed, however, that his efforts are not likely to succeed. For the compliance with his demands would involve the repeal of the military clauses of the constitution of the empire, which restricts the annual conscription to 1 percent. of the population.

## Regimental News.

TORONTO.

E. CO. Q.O.R. 30TH ANNUAL DINNER.

An annual gathering of any company is always looked forward to with more or less enthusiasm, but when it happens to be the 30th occasion of such it is little wonder that the enthusiasm is pronounced. Without doubt E. Co. Q.O.R. occupy the proud and unique position of being the only company of the Canadian Militia to have held a company dinner each year for the past thirty; and naturally one must revere the esprit-de-corps that never lets one, no matter how old, forget that he once served his Queen and country, and looks forward as so many do to the annual dinner, where for a few happy hours he is a boy once more, and tells with pardonable pride to the youngsters (as such they seem to him) of what the Company was like, and what they did in the old days of ten, twenty, twenty-five or thirty years ago.

The dinner this year was held in the mess rooms of the buglers, which were handsomely decorated for the occasion, and your correspondent has no hesitation in saying that it eclipsed anything of a like nature ever held in the city. About 9 o'clock, to the strains of "The Regimental March," played by the Buglers' Orchestra, the members of the Company and their guests to the number of about 80 took their places, and a few minutes later Capt. Mutton was presiding over a crowd unanimous in their mode of discussing the menu placed before them. After ample justice had been paid to Caterer Tasker's efforts, pipes and cigars were lighted, and the toast list and musical programme was entered upon.

The first toast, that of "The Queen," was honored in a fitting manner, after which a selection was given by the Buglers' Orchestra, composed of Bugle-Sergt. Woods (violin), Bugler Davies (piano), Bugler Thompson (piccolo), and Bugler Davidson (trombone). Before proceeding any further Capt. Mutton briefly stated the reason for the unpersonal nature of the toast list, which was that as meetings of this kind too often turned into a mutual admiration society, and, desiring to remedy such, the list had been compiled so as to make each toast in the light of a sentiment, and, as afterwards proved, the idea was a good one. Corp. Blair, secretary of the Company, read letters of regret from several invited guests, prominent among those being Lt.-Col. Oter, Lt.-Col. Gray, Major Delamere, Capt. Mason and Sergt.-Major Robertson, 48th.

The toast of "The Canadian Militia" was proposed by Captain Mutton and responded to by Captain Thompson, and it is doubtful if a better sketch of the Canadian militia could be given than that given by the proposer, who briefly reviewed

its history ever since its formation.

"The 2nd Military District" was happily responded to by Capt. Knifton, who is exceedingly popular with the members of No. 5, having been one of themselves for the past 23 years.

"Our Regiment," proposed by Sergt. Pearson, brought response from Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, Capt. Mercer and Sergt. J. G. Langton.

"Our Sister Corps" was proposed by Lieut. Morton, and was responded to by Lieut. Chadwick, 10th R.G., Sergt.-Major Taylor, 12th Batt., and Sergt. Butcher, No. 2 Co., I.S.C.

Col.-Sergt. Cauldwell neatly and briefly proposed the toast of "Our Guests," ample justice being done to it by Capt. Heakes, Lieut. Wyatt, Q.O.R., and Mr. J. McIntyre, St. Thomas.

"Ex-members," proposed by Col.-Sergt. Bowden, was responded to by Ex-Col. Sergt. Simpson and Ex-Sergt. Lockwood.

"The Ladies" was proposed by Pte. Cuthbert and responded to by Sergt. Bailey. And the last toast, that of "The Press," proposed by Corp. Blair, was responded to be the representative of the MILITIA GAZETTE.

Interspersed between each toast were contributions to the musical programme by the following: Capt. Mutton, Capt. Mercer, Lieut. Wyatt, Lieut. Morton, Lieut. Chadwick, Bugle-Major Swift, Col. Sergt. Cooper, Bugler Davies, Bugler Baker, and Messrs. Draper, Lauder and Sparks, with mandolin, banjo and guitar. And thanks to the efforts of these gentlemen, the hours flew rapidly, and some three laps were placed to the credit of the coming day ere the National Anthem terminated a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

Amongst those present were noticed Lt.-Col. Hamilton, Capt. Mutton, Thompson, Knifton, Mercer, Heakes, Q.O.R. Capt. Heward, 10th R.G., Lieut. Morton, and Wyatt, Q.O.R., Lieut. Chadwick, 10th R.G., Sergt.-Maj. Taylor, 12th Bn. Sergt. Butcher, No. 2 Co., I.S.C., Col.-Sergt. Cooper, Mr. J. McIntyre, St. Thomas, Mr. A. R. Clark, ex-Col.-Sergt. Simpson and ex-Sergt. Lockwood. The committee to whose efforts is due the success of the Dinner is as follows:— Capt. Mutton, Col.-Sergts. Cauldwell and Bowden, Sgt. Lennox, Ptes. Watson, G. Keys, Heron, Cuthbert, Corp. Blair.

### NOTES.

The non-com. class for those qualifying for corporals' certificates which has been parading since November last under Sergt. Langton, finishes next Wednesday, when the final examination will be conducted by Capt. Mercer.

Recruiting in both the Queen's Own and Grenadiers is exceedingly brisk; no doubt rumors of both regiments going to Montreal for the Queen's Birthday, have a great deal to do with it. Of this review to be held in Montreal, no one