

The Ontario Provincial Matches.

THE annual prize meeting of the Ontario Rifle Association is in progress this week at the Garrison common ranges, Toronto. The shooting commenced on Monday, and by last night all the matches included in the grand aggregate were completed. Below will be found the scores of the prize winners during the first two days, together with a synopsis of the proceedings at the annual meeting. The weather on the whole was unfavorable to high scoring, the wind and light both being trying. Where not otherwise specified the Snider rifle is that used.

I.—CANADA COMPANY.

400 yards, 7 shots. Open only to those members who had never won a prize at any Provincial or Dominion match, exclusive of consolation matches.

Table of scores for the Canada Company match, listing names and scores.

2.—MACDONALD, 200 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Table of scores for the Macdonald match, listing names and scores.

3.—GILMOUR, 500 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Table of scores for the Gilmour match, listing names and scores.

Tuesday.

4.—GORDON, 600 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Table of scores for the Gordon match, listing names and scores.

5.—WALKER, 500 AND 600 YARDS, 7 SHOTS.

Team Prizes.

Table of team prizes, listing categories and amounts.

Individual Prizes.

Table of individual prizes, listing names and amounts.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The annual business meeting of the members took place on Tuesday afternoon, commencing at five o'clock, when the firing in the Walker match was still going on. The president, Lieut.-Col. Gibson, occupied the chair, and among others present were Col. Gzowski, A.D.C., Lieut.-Cols. Otter, Aylmer, Jones, Allan, Macdonald, Gray, Alger and Davis; Majors Blaiklock, Dunn and Delamere. The attendance of members was large; the tent provided for the meeting proving insufficient accommodation.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

In presenting the annual report and moving its adoption, the chairman said the association was not growing very rapidly, but good work and steady progress could be reported. It was giving all the encouragement possible to the local associations in the matter of using the rifle as the chief feature of a soldier's education. The number of competitors this year was larger than on previous occasions, and it would be a pity were the association to lose its independent character, which had stood it so well in the past. The association formed a medium between the Dominion and the local associations; it was easy of access, and it was of the utmost importance that it should be maintained in its integrity. Referring to the known desire of the Industrial Exhibition Association to make use of a portion of the common, he said the Industrial association needed room for their exhibition badly and were prepared to agree to very favorable conditions. In view of the public interest the question of the garrison commons was creating, it might be as well to state that the Ontario rifle association held a lease of these grounds for ten years at a fixed sum of rent, which they duly paid for it. The lease was absolute in its terms, subject to the one condition that the Government might resume possession for military purposes only. In the negotiations which had taken place heretofore on this matter many members of the council thought the prudent course for them to take was not to entertain the proposals submitted to them by the Industrial Exhibition association. Personally he was of opinion that at least it would not be of any advantage to them to adhere to that decision in the year to come, while it might be of some advantage to come to some arrangement. The Industrial Exhibition association would construct two ranges of targets and place all the targets in one continuous direct range, so that there would be less liability of bullets dropping into the bay, and of being a continual source of danger, and the common would be more comfortable and more suitable for parade purposes. He believed the recent fatal accident was not the result of the ranges being in a dangerous locality so much as the result of want of regulation in the use of those ranges. The present ranges might therefore be continued without much danger to life if more care were exercised in shooting practice. In his interview with the Mayor, his worship said he would endeavor to find a place where better ranges could be laid out nearly as convenient to the commons. He took upon himself to answer on behalf of the association that when this promise was fulfilled they would be glad to consider the matter of a change as favorable as possible.

The report was adopted.

Col. Gzowski concurred with what the president had said regarding the commons. He thought it would be a great mistake on the part of the Ontario Rifle Association to say to the city and to the Industrial Exhibition Association that they would have no dealings whatever with them in the matter. The lease could be extended from ten years to another ten years on application by the association.

Lieut.-Col. Macdonald said the disposal of the question would affect the Toronto men more than other members of the association, as the former had the use of the ranges for daily and weekly practice. Some arrangement such as indicated by the chairman ought to be made, which might eventually save the use of the grounds for the O.R.A. They should make efforts to gain the goodwill of the citizen in the matter, with the view of getting the ranges permanently established for the O.R.A. in Toronto.

Lieut.-Col. Gray said the Industrial exhibition association had nothing but good will to the O.R.A. What they had to fear in this agitation were the public and the press, which said that another fatal accident such as had recently happened would be nothing short of a murder.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

The following were elected members of the council for the current year:-- First Military District—Major Wilson, retired list; John Crowe, Guelph; Asst-Surgeon Corlis, 25th battalion; Geo. Sleeman, Guelph. Second Military District—Capt. Cooper, 12th; Staff-Sergt. Payne, 13th; Major Delamere, Q.O.R.; Lt.-Col. Jones, 38th. Third Military District—Major Baillie, 47th; W. S. Russell, Bowmanville R. A.; Asst.-Surgeon McLaughlin, 45th; Lieut. MacNachten, Cobourg G. A. Fourth Military District—Lt.-Col. Macpherson, Militia staff; Lt.-Col. J. P. Macpherson, Guards; Major Peley, Engineer's Staff, and Capt. Wright, 43rd. The following representatives were re-elected:—Col. Gzowski, A. D. C. to the Queen; Lt.-Col. Macdonald, 1st B.F.A.; Major Mason, 13th Batt.; Lt.-Col. Macpherson, Guards; Lieut. MacNachten, Cobourg G. A.; Major Anderson, 43rd; Capt. Macdonald, Q.O.R.

The following were appointed a committee for the selection of the Provincial team at the Dominion Rifle Association matches:—Major Todd, Guards; Lt.-Col. Gibson, Hamilton; Capt. Bruce, Royal Grenadiers; Capt. Adam, 13th Battalion.