

# The Canadian Militia Gazette

THE POPULAR ORGAN OF THE ACTIVE FORCE OF THE DOMINION.

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## FIXTURES.

Dominion Rifle Assn.—annual business meeting.....	May 20
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National Rifle Assn. meeting opens (Bisley).....	July 13
C. M. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, July 11, 25, August 8
Inter-City Telegraphic Match.....	June 13
N. W. R. League shoots.....	May 16, 30, June 13, 22, July 11, 25, [Aug. 8, 22, Sept. 19]

## NOTE AND COMMENT.

THE probability mentioned in these columns some time ago that the June camps might have to be postponed on account of the lateness of the session of Parliament, has given place to a certainty, as it has this week been officially announced that there will be no June camps this year. It seems quite likely that the whole rural force will be called out in the fall, the military members of Parliament exerting their influence to secure a sufficient appropriation for the purpose of annual drill of the whole militia.

As a result of the invitation to the three principal Canadian steamship lines to make offers for the transport, it has been decided that the Bisley team shall go by the Sarnia of the Dominion line, sailing on the 25th June. Hitherto the Allan line has had a monopoly of the transport.

Our remarks of last week relative to the demands commonly and more or less directly made upon commanding officers to resign to make way for ambitious subordinates, have been very unfairly represented as an insinuation that an officer just retired from the Grenadiers had made such a demand upon Col. Dawson, whose name happened to be mentioned in connection with the paragraph. A reference to the language used will show that we attributed the

demand to a Toronto newspaper, which also did not refer to the retiring officer. The principle then laid down we now affirm, and our sympathy will always be with any commanding officer who refuses to resign his commission without stronger reason being advanced. If an officer becomes objectionable to his command, there should be some practicable means of making him plainly acquainted with the fact, without resort to fictitious excuse. In this connection we must protest against sinister interpretations being made by the MILITIA GAZETTE upon matters affecting the welfare of the force and the habit many officers have of listening to the words of mischief-makers always at hand to discover possible cause of offence, instead of calmly reading for themselves, and accepting our assurance that paragraphs appearing in this paper are intended to convey the literal meaning of the words used and nothing more or less.

THE following curious paragraph has arrived by cable:—

London, May 10.—Her Majesty has taken a queer freak in making a present of a goat to the Second Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, quartered at Devonport. The Royal goat introduced itself to its new owners by butting and knocking down the Colonel while at drill. The officers have sent a formal address of thanks to Her Majesty.

One would imagine that the Colonel was a rather objectionable person, when his officers thus make such humiliating and unmilitary punishment an occasion for public congratulation. For the dignity of our militia it is to be hoped that this English example of the application of the battering ram will not be applied to those Canadian Colonels who are reported to be in disfavour with their officers.

## NEW RULES AT BISLEY.

The regulations for this year's prize meeting at Bisley, just published, contain several changes of interest to Canada, and which might well be taken into consideration in preparing the programme for next meeting of the D.R.A.

Orthoptics, which it was threatened would be disallowed, may be used with the following restrictions: (a) The sight of the eye not used for aiming must not be artificially blocked. (b) The field of vision must not be limited, except by the orthoptic disc; opaque goggles, side flaps, etc., will not be allowed. (c) No glass darker than a medium tint (about that known to opticians as No. 6) may be used over either eye.

The clause relating to mistakes in compilation of aggregate tickets makes the penalty as follows: "Shall be fined