

We are indebted to Dr. Rae for having made the members of the team honorary members of the Royal Colonial Institute. The London Scottish with their usual hospitality made the Canadian team members of their mess, as did also the Westminster Rifles. Nothing could exceed the kindness and attention shown the Canadian team by the officers of the National Rifle Association, and the name Canadian is a password to the best of everything on Wimbledon common. I take particular pleasure in acknowledging the services of my Adjutant, Captain Wright, 43rd Batt. He devoted his whole time and great energy towards securing the comfort and welfare of the members of the team, and a great deal of the success of the team is due to his careful management. The conduct of the members was highly satisfactory; there has not been even the smallest misunderstanding, but on the contrary a desire on all sides to comply with every order and to make the name of Canadian stand higher than ever with all those with whom they came into contact.

ADDRESS FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

A vote of thanks to the Governor-General for his generous gift of \$500 to the association having been tendered, His Excellency spoke in reply.

Lord Stanley made a thoroughly practical address. He thought he was about the oldest holder of a Hythe certificate in the room, and was thus in a position to take more than a passing interest in the affairs of a rifle association. While the report showed the affairs of the Dominion Rifle Association to be in a flourishing condition, he thought they should not be content to remain stationary, but year by year branch out in new directions. It was obvious that not every man could come to Ottawa to attend the central meeting, and it was essential that an effort should be made to popularise the provincial, battalion and company matches. At these minor meetings the shooting should be serious, a matter of business, not pleasure. This was not the first occasion, he was happy to say on which he had met the Canadian riflemen, having had the pleasure of meeting the Canadian team at Wimbledon, when it was commanded by Col. Gzowski, whose absence to-day he regretted. At Wimbledon the Canadians were known not only as good shots but as good soldiers, as a former Captain Adjutant, Capt. Colville (A.D.C.), who was in the room, could testify. He noticed a hope expressed in the report that next year the regular forces at Halifax would be represented at the meeting, and he trusted this hope would be realized.

He noticed with regret that there had been no contributions from manufacturers last year, which he hoped was not an indication that those persons have become luke warm in support of the association. Shooting was part of the essential training of a soldier, and it contributed to bring about that feeling of security which is the very foundation of manufacturing success. He had to congratulate the association on having this year attained its majority, and also for the fact that its efforts to secure an improvement in the ammunition had been so successful.

THANKING SIR ADOLPHE CARON.

A vote of thanks to Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, for his kindness to the Association, was moved by Senator Carvell, seconded by Major Bond. The latter took occasion to express his appreciation of the improvement which had been effected in the ammunition—an improvement which had averted a demand for a new arm. He felt that in the matter of rifles we were two stages behind, but was sure that the Minister of Militia would procure the very best arm if the Government of the country would back him up with funds.

The vote of thanks was acknowledged by Col. Panet, Deputy Minister, who apologized for the Minister's unavoidable absence.

COL. KIRKPATRICK RE-ELECTED.

Lord Stanley then proposed that Lieut.-Col. Geo. A. Kirkpatrick, M.P., be the president for the ensuing year. His Excellency complimented the president on the assiduity he had shown in that office, and said he was widely known as an enthusiastic rifleman not only in Canada but in England as well. His Excellency then put the motion to the meeting, and it was unanimously carried.

Col. Kirkpatrick in acknowledging the honour paid him, said the success of the association was in a great measure due to the unselfish efforts of the staff and the executive committee. He was convinced that without encouraging riflemen it was impossible to have a good volunteer force.

THE USEFULNESS OF THE D. R. A.

A vote of thanks to General Middleton, for his annual gift to the association, was moved by Col. Kirkpatrick.

General Middleton in reply, said he felt it his duty to state here, as he had stated before in his annual reports, and as he had contended with respect to Wimbledon, that any absolute good accomplished by these rifle associations was more by a side wind than directly. "I see all the money going to you," he said, "and I can't get money to pay my men. You ought to take more pains to get at the rank and file, or the money

should be divided with me." General Middleton proceeded to state that in his opinion officers and combatants should not be allowed to share in the prize money, which should go to the men who would have to use the rifle in case of war.

Lieut.-Col. Curran, of Halifax, agreed with the remarks made by General Middleton. Lieut.-Col. O'Brien, of the 35th, did likewise. He pointed out that of the sixty on the Wimbledon list only eleven are privates, and a great many are non-combatants. In his regiment only combatants were eligible for prizes.

Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick said these staff-sergeants—the non-combatants mentioned—and the officers had worked their way up from privates. They were the men who encouraged others to come forward and join the force, and to take an interest in rifle shooting. If they were excluded from the competition it would soon be found that interest in the force would die out.

Lieut.-Col. Scoble, of Winnipeg, said he was one of those interested in the organization of the association, and was in a position to state that it was not intended to be a military body, but rather a link between the organized militia and the public.

Major Blaiklock, of the 5th Royal Scots, said the men of the 35th Battalion seemed to share in their Colonel's aversion to take part in the D. R. A. competitions. A glance at the record showed that in 1885 there were no competitors from that battalion; in 1886, one; in 1887, none; and in 1888, none.

Lieut.-Col. Tilton, G. G. F. G., said this matter was one which had engaged the attention of the council of the association time and again. They had never considered it advisable to bar any members of the force, but they had constantly increased the nursery prizes, in order to induce new men to attend. As to General Middleton's request, that the money should be divided, the prize list was largely contributed by the competitors themselves.

THE MILITARY GENERAL BOOTH.

General Middleton said he did not wish to decry the work of the Dominion Rifle Association, but there was a work to be done in the rank and file, especially in the rural corps, which the association could not do. To draw a parallel, it was well known that General Booth's army could reach a class that the well-fed Protestant clergy could not. He asked to be considered the General Booth of the Militia, while the gentlemen he addressed were the well fed Protestant clergy.

General Laurie said it was true more money was wanted, but it was to be got in the House, not from this meeting. "You who are not in the House," he said, "should impress it upon your representatives to back us up when we rise to speak on matters respecting the militia." He added that it was too much the custom for the rest of the House to go out when, as they said, the military men were having an innings.

Capt. Hood, of the 5th Royal Scots, said the great interest taken in shooting in that battalion was solely due to the fact that they had a number of shooting officers. In his company he had fifteen or twenty men who were good shots up to five hundred yards.

Lieut.-Col. Macdonald, of Halifax, said he was against the pot-hunting element in the militia, but he thought the pruning knife should be applied in the regimental and provincial associations.

Captain Sherwood said in the 43rd Battalion the officers took no money at the regimental matches, though a great many of them were shooting men, but they contributed very largely to the funds, and brought out a great many new men every year.

Lieut.-Col. White said his experience, in his twenty-one years' connection with the force, had been that where the officers take an interest in the men, and are ready to teach them how to shoot, the men are ready to learn, but not otherwise. This closed the discussion on the subject.

On motion of Major Perley, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Anderson, the constitution was amended so as to provide for the recognition of certain associations in the Northwest Territories as provincial associations; and for granting a bronze as well as the usual silver medal to other than provincial associations who pay an affiliation fee of \$15, in place of \$12 as at present.

The association meeting then terminated, and the council met, re-electing the treasurer, secretary and other officials, and transacting some routine business.

Another heroine has been added to share in the recollection of the past glories of France, with the valorous Maid of Orleans. A statue has just been uncovered in the votive church of the Sacre Cœur, on the eminence of Montmartre, which dominates Paris to the north, but within the fortifications, that did not, by-the-by, exist in 1814, when the Prussians, besieging the capital, planted their batteries on the same hill. The monument inaugurated the other day, is in honour of St. Genevieve, the female patron saint of Paris.