

enhance the value of the motion. For years Sir Mackenzie Bowell had been the warmest friend of the association.

Major E. B. Ibbotson, Montreal, seconded the motion, which was supported by Lieut.-Col. Gibson and unanimously adopted. In replying the Premier referred to his early dealings with the president, and once more expressed his warm interest in the association.

MR. DICKEY COMPLIMENTED.

Lieut.-Col. J. H. Burland, Montreal, moved :

That the thanks of the association be given to the Hon. A. R. Dickey, M.P., late Minister of Militia and Defence, for the donation of \$100 towards last year's prize list, and to the members of the Government, as well as to the members of both Houses of Parliament, for the lively interest they have manifested in the association.

Lieut.-Col. Burland regretted that Mr. Dickey was detained by departmental business, and spoke highly of his worth as Minister of Militia. Lieut.-Col. Wm. P. Anderson, Ottawa, in seconding the resolution, also bore testimony to the very practical sympathy exhibited towards the association by their late Minister.

Lieut.-Col. George R. Starke, Montreal, moved, seconded by Major J. M. Delamere, Toronto :

That the association has pleasure in welcoming the Hon. Alphonse Desjardins, Minister of Militia, and thanks him for his presence, trusting that they will receive from him the same support and encouragement as from Ministers in the past.

Hon. Mr. Desjardins expressed his diffidence at appearing before the association as successor to a Minister who had pleased them so well, and who had known how to improve the militia forces. He hoped, however, that he would prove himself worthy to follow in his steps. (Hear, hear.) The chairman had alluded to the many changes in the head of the Department, but although he was a layman he believed the presence in the Cabinet of his colleagues who had been at the head of the Department, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Sir Adolphe Caron, and Mr. Dickey, and of such military men as Lieut.-Col. Prior and Lieut.-Col. Ouimet, would be a sufficient check on his performing his duties properly. The Minister recalled that when the news of Private Hayhurst's capture of the Queen's Prize came, not only members of the association joined in felicitating him, but from end to end of the Dominion there was a general feeling of pleasure at the success of a Canadian marksman. This was an evidence of the loyalty of the country. People were not fond of seeing money spent, but when danger threatened the Empire a little while ago opinion changed, and people showed how ready they were to render the militia organization of Canada as perfect as possible. It was under such auspicious circumstances that he was called to take charge of the Department, and such was the spirit of the Cabinet that he might have to curb the enthusiasm of the Finance Minister. The Government was ready to answer the demand of the public opinion of Canada that

it should not stand with folded arms while the Empire was threatened. Canada had a duty to herself and to her traditions. (Applause). The Minister concluded by an announcement that he would contribute a prize to the next meeting, which was received with appreciation.

Major Delamere, moved, seconded by Major W. M. Blacklock, Montreal :

That the association, in welcoming Maj.-Gen. Gascoigne, expresses the hope that while in Canada he will endeavor to assist the association in fostering rifle practice, and thereby raising the efficiency of the militia.

Gen. Gascoigne spoke of the many kind things which had been said of him since he came to Canada. He had served under Mr. Dickey, than whom no man could have a better master, and now under Mr. Desjardins. He assured the association that the defences of Canada were a subject of thought in more important places than his own office, and were taken up at home in a manner most flattering to Canada, if they knew as much as he did of what was going on.

THANKING THE DONATORS.

Hon. L. H. Davies, M.P., moved :

That the thanks of the association be given to the undermentioned gentlemen for their continued annual donations. Lieut.-Col. F. C. Henshaw, chairman of Council, \$100; T. C. Brainard, Esq., president of the Hamilton Powder Co., \$100; Andrew Allan, Esq., Montreal, \$50; Major A. N. Cosby, Toronto, \$50.

Mr. Davies expressed his pleasure, as a member of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition, in being present. The estimates for Militia and Defence were estimates which, as had been observed, were always discussed sympathetically by both sides of the House. There was no party in respect to the militia, and he was proud to say that the party spirit, which entered into the debate on other items, was markedly absent from the discussions on that Department. He was glad to hear the General's speech and to have an outline of his policy. He was glad to know that the policy of the Government would be a forward one in reference to the defences of Canada, and when it was proposed in the House he had no doubt it would be such as to meet with the approval of the Opposition as well as the Government. He could say, without hesitation, that every proposal the Government made would be met by the Opposition with sympathy and with a strong, cordial determination to approve of it if they could. (Hear, hear.) Before closing Mr. Davies said : " Will you permit me to say, in welcoming General Gascoigne, that, while his predecessor was not a marvel of popularity anywhere in Canada, I could not help admiring his manly, open criticism of the administration of the Militia Department at all times. (Applause.) I am sure everyone will agree that we do not wish to see a figure-head, and when we had those pungent, manly remarks I felt that not only was the Militia Department benefited by them, but members of Parliament were enabled to

appreciate what was being done for the money they voted." (Hear, hear.)

Lieut.-Col. J. Pennington Macpherson seconded this resolution. He said that the annual prize list amounted to about \$7,000, of which members and competitors contributed \$4,000, and the association was pleased to see citizens show their appreciation of the advantages it offered the militia force by helping to augment the prize list. In reference to the General's policy, Lieut.-Col. Macpherson said all would agree it was necessary to have more musketry instruction in camps. The Government must provide more target accommodation in camp, as it was not possible at present to give men more than twenty rounds. Or else rifle associations should be encouraged by grants of money, so that they could train riflemen to take care of their rifles.

Major E. B. Busteed, Montreal, moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. John Hood, Montreal :

That the thanks of the association are due, and are hereby given to the Hon. J. C. Patterson, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, for his gift of a silver cup, value \$150; to Gordon Corbould, M.P., for a cup of the same value; to the Hon. W. H. Montague, M.P., for a gold watch of the value of \$50; and to the Hiram Walker Co., Walkerville, for their annual cup for the highest score in the Walker (Batt.) Match.

Lieut.-Col. Hood read an offer from an English firm of a cup, value 25 guineas, to be shot for with smokeless powder.

Lieut.-Col. Anderson, Ottawa, moved, and Andrew Haslam, Esq., M.P., Nanaimo, B.C., seconded :

That the thanks of the association be given to the president and directors of the following banks for their continued annual subscriptions: The Bank of Montreal, the Bank of British North America, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Merchants Bank of Canada, the Imperial Bank, Toronto; Molsons Bank, Montreal; the Dominion Bank, Toronto; the Eastern Townships' Bank, Sherbrooke, and the Bank of British Columbia.

Major Mason moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Tilton :

That the thanks of the association be given to Lieut.-Col. C. S. Roberts, commanding the Cambridge University Rifles, for his courtesy in placing the University ranges at the disposal of the Canadian team for practice during the week before the Bisley matches.

Lieut.-Col. Prior moved, seconded by Major Ibbotson :

That the thanks of the association are hereby given to the Board of the Canada Club, London, for their liberality in again presenting a handsome silver cup for the highest aggregate score of the Canadian team at Bisley.

Lieut.-Col. F. M. Cole, Montreal, moved, seconded by Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, A.D.C. :

That the thanks of the association be given to the Hon. Sir Adolphe Caron, Postmaster-General, for causing a post office to be provided on the range during the continuance of the annual matches, for the convenience of competitors and others.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, Lieut.-Col. Gibson being unanimously re-elected president on the motion of Sir Mackenzie Bowell and the Minister of Militia and Defence. The other officers and the members of council were re-elected, Capt. Hugh John Macdonald being