

for teams of fifteen, with Martini rifles at 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots. This match will be simply for glory, there being no prizes in connection with it, but League rules will govern and telegraphing may be done at League rates.

THE DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association was held at the Russell House, Ottawa, on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. The chairman, Lt.-Col. J. A. Ouimet, presided, and there were also present: Lt.-Col. G. A. Kirkpatrick, President of the Association; Lt.-Col. Wm. White, Chairman of the Executive; Lt.-Col. C. S. Jones, 38th Dufferin Rifles; Lt.-Col. F. Massey, 6th Fusiliers; Lt.-Col. H. J. Miller, Montreal; Capt. A. H. Sims, Victoria Rifles; Lt.-Col. John Hood, Major W. M. Blaiklock, 5th Royal Scots; Lt.-Col. H. R. Smith, 14th Bn.; Lt.-Col. W. P. Anderson, Lieut. E. D. Sutherland, 43rd Bn.; Major Toller, Capt. H. H. Gray, G.G.F.G.; Lt.-Col. Thos. Ross, Lt.-Col. D. A. Macdonald, Lt.-Col. J. Pennington Macpherson, Major H. F. Perley, Major Walsh, Ottawa; Lt.-Col. John Macpherson, Treasurer; and Lt.-Col. Thos. Bacon, Secretary. The special business of the meeting being first taken up, the executive were authorized to make the arrangements necessary for sending a team to Bisley as usual. With respect to the complaints about steamer accommodation, the Secretary was directed to write to the officers of the Allan, Dominion and Beaver lines to ascertain upon what terms they will take the team, first cabin to be stipulated for, with a stateroom for every two members. The determination unanimously expressed was that the team should no longer be put to the discomfort heretofore experienced on account of the inferior accommodation provided for some of the members.

The Secretary was instructed to write the first twenty on the Bisley roster to notify him by the 25th inst. whether or not they would accept the places won, and to notify the next in order to fill vacancies caused by refusals. The appointment of the officers of the team was left in the hands of the Chairman of Council. It is understood that his choice is for Commandant Major B. A. Weston, of the 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers, Halifax; and for Adjutant Major W. M. Blaiklock, of the 5th Royal Scots, Montreal.

The Executive Committee were authorized to prepare a prize list not to exceed in value \$7,250, for the annual meeting at Ottawa, the date for the opening being fixed at the 31st August. At a subsequent meeting the executive appointed a programme committee consisting of Lt.-Col. Anderson, Lt.-Col. Hood, Capt. Sims, Major Mason and Major Blaiklock.

The recommendations of the competitors' meeting with respect to sighting shots and the extra series matches were discussed without any definite conclusion being arrived at, but it seems probable that one sighting shot at each range will be allowed, and the practice of throwing all the targets open for extra series shooting discontinued.

A long discussion took place about the team competitions, also without a definite conclusion. Proposals to allow unlimited team entries, and also that team contests should be decided by the highest scores made by any members of the competing organizations in place of by previously named members, failed to carry.

A proposition that in the Minister of Militia match the teams should consist of five in place of three members found much favour, and was commended to the consideration of the programme committee.

The annual business meeting of the Association will be held, in accordance with the constitution, on Wednesday, 20th May, in the Railway Committee room of the House of Commons.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Proceedings of an extra-ordinary meeting of Council held in the office of the Inspector of Artillery, Ottawa, on Wednesday, the 8th April, 1891, to consider resolutions proposed by Lieut.-Col. Irwin, providing for selection of a team to be sent to England to compete in the annual matches of the National Artillery Association, Shoeburyness.

Present: Col. Powell, Adjutant-General; Lieut. Col. Macpherson, Director of Stores; Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Inspector of Artillery; Major John Stewart, Commanding Ottawa Field Battery; Captain J. B. Donaldson.

Written votes and opinions received from fourteen members of Council unable to be present were read and considered.

It was proposed by Major Stewart, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Macpherson:

"That in view of the opinions as expressed by members of Council, and especially by those officers of Garrison Brigades whose corps are most interested in the proposed resolutions, it is not desirable that arrangements be made for sending a team to Shoeburyness this year." Carried unanimously.

J. B. DONALDSON, Captain,
Secretary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.]

D. R. A. TEAMS.

EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.—As a constant reader of THE GAZETTE I have been pleased to notice the freedom with which the members of the militia have used your paper for the purpose of discussing questions of interest to the force. And, since the subject of rifle-shooting occupies a prominent place in the minds of the members, as a young shot I venture to support the change in the present D. R. A. rules advocated by your correspondent in last issue, which, if adopted, would place the men who take part in the annual matches on a more equal footing.

The team prizes and badges in the Dominion of Canada Match should be awarded to those members of a battalion making the five highest aggregate scores instead of five previously named men at present. The injustice of a system of badge-giving which shuts out one-half the members of a battalion from competing for them is obvious to at least a young shot; it discriminates against him in favour of his more experienced comrade. It is simply one combination of old shots shooting against another, and in this combination the young shot has no part or interest. He is thus deprived of half the incentive before the match starts.

A young shot firing over a range for the first time has a great deal to learn and a little information or instruction would materially contribute to his success; but all the interest is centered round the team and little or no attention is paid to him, as a consequence his first appearance is only too often his last.

The most casual observer cannot have failed to notice the amount of grumbling that always attends an officer's choice of a team, especially when the men who have been left off happen to make better scores than some who have been put on the team; and when, as in most cases, the teamwinnings are divided amongst the men who actually compose the team, a man's financial success is left largely in the hands of another.

When both team and individual prizes are given to battalion teams they should not only be won by the highest team score, but by the highest individual scores as well.

We all know the amount of "glorious uncertainty" there is in connection with rifle shooting; a young shot is likely