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The Dominion Rifle Meeting.

Without exception the greatest ever held upon Rideau range, was the annual prize meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association, which opened on the 2nd and closed on the 6th inst. There were close upon 425 competitors, against a greatest total of 363 on any previous occasion. Every province of the Dominion was, as usual, represented, and a gratifying and unusual feature was the presence of a team of ten officers and sergeants from the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment (Imp.) from Halifax, and of five officers and men from H.M.S. Bellerophon, from Montreal. The meeting was under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, D.A.G., as chief executive officer, and the range officers were Lieut.-Col. Boswell, 90th, Winnipeg; Major Radiger, 3rd Vics., Montreal; Major W. E. Hodgins, G.G.F.G., Ottawa; Capt. Mutton, Queen's Own Rifles, Toronto; Capt. Aumond, R.L.; Lieut. Macnachtan, Garrison Artillery, Cobourg; and Lieut. Winter, G.G.F.G., Ottawa. The secretary, Lieut.-Col. Bacon, and the treasurer, Lieut.-Col. John Macpherson, looked after their duties in the usual satisfactory manner; and in the statistical office, where Major Walsh, S.L., presided, the compilation of the prize lists proceeded with a promptitude and accuracy highly gratifying to the competitors.

The weather from Monday to Thursday was quite hot, and the wind for the most part was up the range, with a bothersome variation from right to left and vice versa. It was not heavy, but quite sufficient to convert unwary marksmen's intended bulls-eyes into outers. The light was good for the most part, but hazy at times. On Friday morning, when the Governor General's match was in progress rain fell in liberal quantities, but the light was beautiful, and the wind perfectly steady, so that the morning was really the best of the week for high scoring.

THE COMPETITORS' MEETING.

The usual competitors' meeting was held in the drill hall Tuesday night, Lieut.-Col. Wm. White, chairman of the executive committee, presiding. Major Sam. Hughes, of the 45th Batt., acted as secretary. About 100 competitors were present. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, urged the competitors not to be diffident about bringing up any questions, discussions of which might benefit themselves and the association.

Lieut. Macnachtan, of Cobourg, introduced the question of further target accommodation. Year by year, he said, there had been an increase in the number of competitors, and now the limit had been reached unless additional targets were secured. He hoped before next year the council would consider the advisability of erecting more targets, at least eight or ten. The chairman said between this and next year the council would do their utmost to see if an improvement could be made. He had it upon the authority of Major Perley, who as engineer for the association knew all about these matters, that it was possible to increase the targets by ten. Major Perley said it would not be well to make any promise on the matter. Certainly he believed room for ten additional targets could be found on the western side of the field, but, unfortunately, the range was not government property, and as the association's lease expired next May, increased accommodation was contingent upon a new lease of the property being secured.

Lieut.-Col. the Hon. J. M. Gibson, 13th Batt., said he believed every Canadian rifleman must have been gratified at the success of the team which went to Wimbledon this year. Personally he was delighted that his old friend Col. Bacon had been appointed commandant of the team this year and had brought the Kolapore cups back to this country. He also spoke highly of the services of Capt. Hood as adjutant of the team, and he concluded by moving that the riflemen here assembled from all the provinces of Canada desire to express their great satisfaction that the team representing Canada at Wimbledon once more brought to this country the Kolapore cups and generally made a capital record, and also to congratulate Lieut.-Col. Bacon, Capt. Hood, and the whole team on the record made on behalf of Canada. Capt. Adam, of

the 13th, in seconding the motion, said he believed the success of this year's Canadian team at Wimbledon was due to the fact that practical shooting men were in command. If the practice were continued success must surely attend the efforts of our representatives. The resolution was unanimously adopted. Lieut.-Col. Bacon acknowledging the vote, said no better team could have been sent to England to represent the Dominion than went over this year. Not a dissentient word was heard from the men and a thorough *esprit de corps* prevailed. Capt. Hood also briefly returned thanks. He acknowledged the uniform kindness with which the team had been treated in the mother country. In view of the fact that great interest was manifested in the doings of the team he would suggest that next year the commanding officer be authorized to cable the results of each day's winnings to Canada. Respecting the match with the Massachusetts team he stated that a challenge had been duly sent their representatives, but no answer had been returned to it. Lieut.-Col. Tilton said it was a matter of great regret that fuller accounts of the Canadian scores were not telegraphed from Wimbledon, and he trusted Capt. Hood's suggestion would be adopted.

Major Sherwood, 43rd, expressed regret that some post entries had been refused this year, although the men would have paid the extra twenty per cent. The Chairman said the Executive had had the matter under consideration, and had no alternative under the circumstances, but to refuse the entries.

Capt. Adams, Halifax Garrison Artillery, moved, seconded by Capt. Hood, that the meeting views with pleasure the attendance at these matches of teams respectively representing the regular army and the navy of the British Empire, and trusts that the practice will continue. The resolution was adopted.

Lieut. Sutherland, 43rd, called attention to the fact that no pool targets have been established this year, although such had been promised in the official programme. The Chairman stated that this was due entirely to the want of target accommodation. The Executive had carefully considered the matter and decided that the first consideration must be the matches.

Capt. Adam, Hamilton, moved, seconded by Major Hughes, 45th, a vote of thanks to the Executive Committee for the admirable manner in which the general work of the meeting had been conducted. The resolution was adopted.

Major Hughes called attention to a circular which had been sent out to officers commanding battalions, asking their views in regard to the discontinuance of Government grants to local rifle associations and suggesting that instead these grants be made to district associations. He deprecated any such change being made. On the contrary he favoured additional grants to the local associations, and would like them to be granted to company headquarters. He moved a resolution offering the opinion of the meeting that no change be made, but on the contrary, if possible the grants be extended to the local associations. Capt. Grant, 20th Batt., seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Major McSpadden, York Rangers, asked if any complaints had been received this year with regard to the ammunition. He had heard some grumbling and had seen some drop shots. The chairman said no complaints had reached the executive. Major Garrison, of Halifax, said he was convinced the '89 ammunition was not as good as that of '88. Several shots to his knowledge had dropped. Capt. Hartt, St. John Rifles, said the New Brunswick men had been making splendid shooting at home with the '88 ammunition, but when they arrived at Ottawa a change was noticeable. Major Hughes, Capt. Hood, Lieut. Sutherland and others spoke in the same strain. Major Perley said at the recent Metropolitan matches the fact that the ammunition was defective had been brought to his attention, and he had deemed it proper to lay the matter before the proper authorities. Sir A. P. Caron only heard the complaints for the first time on Friday last, and had ordered a searching investigation to be made at the factory as to the cause. On motion of Capt. Hood, seconded by Major Garrison, the meeting resolved that the ammunition of 1889 could not be commended in the same high terms as the ammunition of 1888 was last year. The meeting then adjourned.