

Queries and Replies.

EFFICIENCY.

Q. What is required of a man to be an efficient member of the active militia?—W.S.

A. As the Dominion Rifle Association makes the law for those mostly interested, the following quotation from their entry form for this year furnishes an answer: "Efficiency to be understood as having been a bona fide member of the corps to which the competitor belongs, previous to the 1st July, 1889, and as having performed the number of drills authorized by any General Order in that behalf for 1888-89."—Ed.

SOME SHOOTING QUESTIONS.

Q. (1). What is the system adopted by rifle associations in classing their members—say class A and class B, and about what difference should there be in the respective averages?

(2). How are the verniers and wind-gauges sold by McVittie used?

(3). Are orthoptics useful to poor marksmen, and if so should they be fixed near to the eye or at a little distance from it?

Ans. (1) The mode of classification is usually quite arbitrary, depending altogether on the general record of the men. For instance, any man in the habit of competing at Provincial or Dominion meetings, and regularly winning prizes, would be placed in the first class in any club; so would any man who commonly made 80 points or over out of 105; while those averaging about 70 or commonly getting into the 70's would be called second class; others, including all untried men, third class. If only two classes are made, such as instanced in the question, a fair division would be to place in Class A those commonly scoring in the seventies or higher.

(2) The vernier is used to regulate the elevation of the backsight. It is subdivided to the 150th part of an inch, and by its use the sight can be raised or lowered so as to permit aim always to be taken at the one spot, allowance for a high or low shot being made on the backsight rather than on the target. A steady shot at 500 yards striking 6 inches under the bull, for instance, before the next was fired the backsight—if of a snider—would be raised 3-150th, or three points, by the vernier, which would place the next shot, if fired the same way, in the centre of the bull's eye, each 150th being equivalent, roughly speaking, to about 6 inches on the target. The wind gauge is used to ascertain the allowance made for wind by the side line on the backsight. It does not tell the competitor what force of wind to allow, but rather measures for him what force he has allowed, so that he may record it for reference. The wind gauge also serves the useful purpose of a rule against which to draw a straight wind line on the bar.

(3) Orthoptics are of more use to skilful than to poor marksmen; but they are a great assistance to any who are troubled with blurring of the sights. Individual comfort and convenience will best regulate how they should be worn.—Ed.

The Rifle.

REGINA VS. WINNIPEG.

A telegraphic match between the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association, of Regina, and the Winnipeg Rifle Association, was fired on the 6th July. Sniders were used and the ranges were Queen's. The Regina men begin to show good results from their season's practice, and though they lost the match it was only by 4 points. Their score was much the highest of the season, they not having previously exceeded 500 points for the team. The weather there was dull and showery, with little or no wind. The Winnipeg men fired on the Kildonan range. The scores were:

WINNIPEG.				REGINA.					
M. C. Clarke.....	31	29	22	82	Major D. Mowat....	31	31	21	83
H. A. Costigan.....	26	27	27	80	R. Sweet.....	28	25	22	75
A. Gillies.....	30	23	22	75	H. A. Carruthers....	30	24	21	75
K. Graburn.....	26	25	22	73	Major Hayter Reed..	27	28	19	74
S. S. Kennon.....	23	30	20	73	J. T. Stemshorn....	28	20	25	73
C. N. Mitchell.....	28	29	14	71	R. J. Steel.....	23	26	20	69
Jas. McDiarmid.....	28	17	19	64	S. Varder.....	27	21	17	65
Alex. McIntyre.....	22	21	15	58	J. W. Jowett.....	22	25	17	64
Totals.....	214	201	161	576	Totals.....	216	200	162	578

PRESCOTT RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

This association will hold monthly spoon competitions throughout the season. The spoon goes to the member making the highest aggregate in any three of the regular weekly practices held during the month.

WINNIPEG.				REGINA.					
Staff-Sgt. Huntington (spn 1st cls).....	8	8	8	24	J. White (sp. 2nd cls)...	52	65	70	187
Sergt.-Major Huton.....	70	75	81	226	Sergt. Press.....	52	68	60	180
Trumpeter Coates.....	69	75	78	222	J. Robinson.....	51	59	63	173
S. Foster.....	62	70	81	214	W. Baston.....	50	60	63	173
Staff Sergt. Hanna.....	64	70	78	212	Capt. Dawson.....	47	53	70	170

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEAM SHOOTING.

Part of the celebration by Vancouver, B.C., of Dominion Day, was a rifle team competition for the Mayor's cup and other prizes. It was held at the Moodyville ranges. The teams entered were Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster, the first named a strictly military one. Some disappointment was felt at the absence of the jolly tars, to the commander of whom an invitation had been given to send a team each of Marines and Blue Jackets, but doubtless other duties kept them from appearing. The ranges were 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots at each range, and eight men constituting a team. Some exceptionally fine shooting took place at the 200 yards range, three 34's being put in out of a possible thirty-five, the honours falling respectively to P. A. Grant and A. Stewart of the Vancouver team, and Bombardier Newberry of the Victorias. Leaving the 200 yards, the Vancouvers and the Victorias tied each with 240 points, with New Westminster following close. At the 500 yards a slight change took place, the Victorias getting a lead of six points on the Vancouvers and the New Westminsters picking up five of their arrears. At the final range for the first three pairs the Vancouvers got a lead of 12 points, but lost in the end and finished a good second—five points behind the Victorias and 11 ahead of New Westminster.

VICTORIA.									
Gunner Newberry.....	34	24	30	88	Gunner Beckwith.....	29	31	21	81
Corpl. Winsley.....	31	26	28	85	Corpl. Fleming.....	29	27	24	80
Sergt. Newberry.....	30	28	24	82	Bombdr. Fleming.....	30	23	21	74
Master Gunner Cornish..	31	28	22	81	Corpl. Langley.....	26	28	10	64
Total.....								635	
VANCOUVER.									
H. A. Brocklesby.....	28	32	27	87	J. Stuart.....	34	28	15	77
W. H. Forrest.....	29	28	27	84	H. Collins.....	32	20	23	75
D. Bell Irving.....	28	28	27	83	C. E. Tisdall.....	30	24	21	75
P. A. Grant.....	34	23	23	80	D. McKay.....	25	26	18	69
Total.....								630	
NEW WESTMINSTER.									
H. C. Chamberlin.....	29	33	26	88	J. C. Chamberlin.....	21	30	24	75
A. Jackson.....	28	30	21	79	J. Wilson.....	28	23	24	75
Wm. McColl.....	27	26	25	78	T. Trapp.....	29	26	19	74
D. Proud.....	30	26	22	78	A. F. Cotton.....	31	20	21	72
Total.....								619	

The prizes were awarded as follows: Victoria team, cup and prize to each member. Highest score on the range, Gunner Newberry, Victoria team, 88 points. Highest score in Victoria team, Gunner Newberry, 88 points. Highest score in Vancouver team, H. A. Brocklesby, 87 points. Highest score in New Westminster team, H. C. Chamberlin, 88 points. The conditions of the match made the rifles optional, but Martini-Henry rifles were used by all, with the exception of those of the New Westminster team.

OTTAWA RIFLE CLUB.

Snider rifles, Queen's ranges, seven shots, were the conditions governing Saturday's spoon competition:

J. E. Hutcheson, (sp. 1st cls)...	28	33	29	90	N. Morrison.....	30	28	23	81
Lt.-Col. W. P. Anderson...	28	28	30	86	Lieut. J. W. de C. O'Grady..	31	28	21	80
Lieut. E. D. Sutherland...	31	27	28	86	J. P. Nutting.....	30	26	23	79
Major J. Wright.....	31	29	25	85	J. H. Ellis.....	25	25	28	78
T. C. Slade.....	30	32	23	85	H. LeB Ross.....	28	25	24	77
F. W. Smith, (sp. 2nd cls)...	31	33	19	83	Capt. H. H. Gray.....	30	28	19	77
Capt. C. F. Cox.....	29	22	31	82	R. Stewart.....	25	30	21	76
J. D. Taylor.....	27	29	26	82	T. Carroll.....	29	23	23	75
R. H. Brown.....	25	32	25	82	L. Gooding.....	25	25	24	74
Major H. F. Perley.....	30	30	22	82	J. D. Holbrook.....	27	26	21	74
R. Moodie, (sp. 3rd cls)...	29	32	21	82	Capt. B. Billings.....	29	24	19	72
W. G. Dial.....	24	29	28	81	C. S. Scott.....	30	26	16	72
A. Pink.....	29	27	25	81	G. H. Rogers.....	26	18	27	71

GUARDS' RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At the practice held on the Rideau range, Ottawa, on Saturday list, Snider rifles, 200, 500 and 600 yards, the scores were:

Sergt. Short.....	29	32	28	89	Pte. Gooding.....	25	25	24	74
Pte. Morrison.....	30	28	23	81	Pte. Holbrook.....	27	26	21	74
Pte. Elmitt.....	30	28	22	80	Staff-Sergt. Dawson.....	28	25	18	71
Pte. Nutting.....	30	26	23	79	Sergt. Reardon.....	27	29	10	66
Capt. Gray.....	30	28	19	77	Bandsman Benbow.....	23	21	10	54
Col.-Sergt. Mailleue.....	29	22	25	76	Pte. Morse.....	25	13	14	52
Corpl. Carroll.....	29	23	23	75	Corpl. Hagan.....	21	10	20	51

A COMPANY MATCH.

A match with Snider rifles at Queen's ranges, took place on Saturday last, between companies of the Guards and 43rd Bn., five men each, and resulted as follows:

No. 1 43RD.				No. 2 GUARDS.					
Pte. Hutcheson.....	28	33	29	90	Sergt. Short.....	29	32	28	89
Lieut. Sutherland.....	31	27	28	86	Pte. Brown.....	30	29	21	80
Pte. Taylor.....	27	29	26	82	Capt. Gray.....	30	28	20	78
Lieut. O'Grady.....	31	28	21	80	Col.-Sergt. Mailleue.....	29	22	25	76
Pte. Scott.....	30	26	16	72	Staff-Sergt. Dawson.....	28	25	18	71
Totals.....	147	143	119	410	Totals.....	146	136	112	394