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NOTE AND COMMENT.

At the meeting to be held on the 7th inst. the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association should not neglect the matter of securing for the Bisley team better steamship accommodation than commonly falls to them. It will be remembered that this was one of the subjects dealt with at the last competitors' meeting, when much indignation was expressed at the treatment of the team on ship board. The officers have always fared tolerably well, the poorer and very objectionable berths being allotted to the Privates and Non-Commissioned Officers, but the very fact that the non-commissioned ranks are altogether unrepresented in the membership of the Council should make that body more particular to see that the cause of complaint is removed. Whether or not better accommodation is secured for all, the practice of allotting quarters according to seniority in Militia rank should be discontinued. The members of the Bisley team are, in the eyes of the Dominion Rifle Association, on an equality as members of that body and as riflemen, and if all cannot fare alike precedence should be given only in the order in which places on the team were won.

OWING to the lateness of the Session of Parliament, it would not be surprising were the district camps usually assembled in June, not held until September this year. The necessary appropriations can hardly pass the Commons in time to permit of proper arrangements being made for the June camp, though, no doubt, means might be devised for forestalling the action of parliament, should it be deemed

imperative to assemble the camps at the usual season. In view, however, of the agitation for annual drill of the whole force, and of the disposition of the Militia Department to secure this as soon as possible, the militia might reap considerable benefit from awaiting parliamentary action before arrangements for the year are made.

The prospect that only Garrison artillery men should be chosen for Canadian teams sent to take part in the garrison competitions at Shoeburyness, is naturally enough met with opposition by some members of the Field artillery, who wish the privilege of these trips still held out as an inducement to attain proficiency. The contention that the Field artillerymen acquire much useful information at Shoeburyness is a forcible one, but the strong point on the other side is that it is the Garrison and not the Field meeting in Canada which is omitted whenever a team is sent to England, in order that the appropriation may be used for the team expenses. If the present rule of selection is to be maintained, the cost of the trip should be provided for otherwise than as at present.

The latest papers show another complication in the contest already reported for the vacancy on the N. R. A. Council. This arises out of a postal card sent by Col. Burt, Captain of the English Twenty Club, to the members, against the candidature of their Adjutant and Secretary, Capt. Gratwicke, as follows:—

“Though claiming no right to influence any one in the matter, I wish it understood that I strongly disapprove of the action of certain cliques interested in the formation of other ranges, in pushing forward Mr. Gratwicke at a most inappropriate time, and against the unanimous wish of the Council.

“If outvoted, they can only regard it as a ‘vote of want of confidence.’

“The Council has, by great energy and influence, nearly succeeded in placing the N. R. A. once more on a sound and safe basis, and only required perfect trust and confidence to enable them to complete the work.”

In reply Capt. Gratwicke disclaims the suggested interest in the formation of other ranges, and expresses regret that the Council has seen fit to issue a canvassing circular against the nominee of the members, and that this should have been followed by the postal card above mentioned. The result of the contest we expect to find in the papers arriving by next mail.