

# THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE

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## THE MILITARY RIFLE LEAGUE.

### THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING PROVES A GRAND SUCCESS.

**This Season's Prizes Presented by Sir Adolphe Caron—His Interesting and Patriotic Address—Free Ammunition Promised for Next Year Also—And Sir Adolphe will give a Special Prize—Congratulatory Address from the Adjutant-General—A Souvenir for the Secretary—Election of Officers.**

The inaugural season of the Canadian Military Rifle League had a happy and auspicious ending on the evening of the 1st inst., when the first annual meeting was held in the commodious hall of the Ottawa Amateur Athletic Club, kindly granted free to the League for the occasion. The invitation to attend extended to the riflemen in Ottawa for the Dominion prize meeting was heartily responded to, and a large and interesting meeting was the result. Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, and Col. Walker Powell, Adjutant-General, were present by special invitation, and occupied seats to the right of the chairman. Before the formal proceedings commenced, all had an opportunity of viewing the handsome prizes to be presented later in the evening to the teams and individuals lucky enough to have been foremost in the season's contests. The team trophies, especially the mammoth piece of plate for the first team, were wonderful examples of skill in the silver-workers' art, and elicited very general praise for the Meriden Britannia Company, who, it was explained, had given exceptionally good value in the League trophies by way of advertisement of what the establishment could turn out. The badges, supplied by Mr. J. F. Cream, military outfitter, were likewise very generally admired for the tastefulness of the design and excellence of the workmanship.

The President, Lt.-Col. Gibson, not being able to come to Ottawa, and the Vice Presidents, Lt.-Col. Anderson and Major Delamere, being prevented by other business from attending at the opening of the meeting, the chair was by request taken by Major Mason, 13th Battalion. In opening the proceedings, Major Mason congratulated the League upon the presence of Sir Adolphe Caron, Minister of Militia, and the Adjutant-General, Col. Walker Powell, one of the staunchest friends of rifle shooting in the Dominion. He then called upon the secretary, Mr. W. R. Pringle, to read his annual report, which was as follows:—

*Mr. President and Gentlemen,*—I have the honour to report at the close of this the first year of the Canadian Military Rifle League, the entire success of our venture for the encouragement of rifle shooting throughout Canada. The entries, although somewhat slow in coming in at first, reached a grand total of fifty-two teams before the last day for accepting them. Entries were received from corps in all the provinces of the Dominion except British Columbia, and it is hoped that we will have entries from that province next year. The individual members competing on teams have numbered over eight hundred. The direct benefit to the militia force has been shown by the improvement in the later scores as compared with those made in the matches earlier in the season. The shooting done by the teams as a whole has been good, and by some teams really phenomenal; the 13th Battalion having put on the grand score of 946 points, an average of 94.6 points per man, and the 45th Battalion Bowmanville team 926. Some of the individual scores have also been remarkable, Capt. W. S. Russell of the 45th Batt. having scored 101 points, Pte. Morkill of the 53rd Batt. 100, and Staff-Sergt. Bridgeford of A Battery 99 points out of 105 possible, and scores of 94 and upwards were so common that it would be tedious to enumerate the makers here. The 54th Batt. deserve congratulation on winning the trophy, which is indeed a triumph of the silversmiths' art, and is much better than could have been secured for the money but for the kindness of the Meriden Britannia Company.

I succeeded in making arrangements with the C. P. R. Telegraph Co. for tele-

graphing the scores at the low rate of fifty cents per team per match, which was very reasonable considering that each team sent their own scores and received those of the other fifty-one teams.

I have to report a great inconvenience arising from the negligence of some of the team captains in not telegraphing scores and sending sheets as promptly as they should have done. It is to be hoped that this will be remedied another year.

One very satisfactory matter which I have to report is that by the liberality of the Hon. Minister of Militia free ammunition was allowed for the League matches. The thanks of the League are due to Lt.-Cols. O'Brien, Denison and Amyot, Major Carpenter and others for the interest they took in bringing this matter before the Minister. The thanks of the League are also due to THE CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE for the publication in full of the League scores (individual and team). Had it not been possessed of an official organ such as the GAZETTE the League could not have aroused so much general interest.

And now, Mr. President and gentlemen, touching the financial part of my report, I have to say that I have kept the expenditure as low as possible so that we might have the greatest possible amount of the entrance fees to spend on the prizes, which will be presented later on this evening.

Hoping that I have performed my duties with satisfaction to the League, I will close by wishing the Canadian Military Rifle League continued success.

The Treasurer, Capt. Bruce, then read the financial statement, which, in brief, showed that the net receipts, from entry fees, had been \$464.50. The main items of expenditure were \$315 for the trophies; \$67 for the badges, and \$36 for printing and advertising. The secretary's expenses for travelling, postage, etc., were only \$46, and there was a balance of 4 cents reported on hand as a nest egg for next year.

On motion of Major John Hughes, seconded by Capt. Ross, 13th, the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were adopted.

#### THE PRIZES PRESENTED.

Sir Adolphe Caron, by request, presented the prizes to such of the winners (a large proportion) as were present to receive them. The team trophies were first presented, and then the badges and special prizes for individuals. Sir Adolphe addressed a few pleasant words to each winner as he came forward to receive his reward. The ten team prizes were awarded to the teams whose names and scores are here given:—

	May 17	May 31	June 14	July 12	July 26	Aug. 2	Aug. 9	Ag-gregate
1. 54th Battalion	807	799	830	788	841	860	838	5763
2. 13th Battalion	688	775	749	813	841	873	946	5685
3. 53rd Battalion	683	724	795	849	843	885	890	5669
4. 45th Battalion, Bowmanville	623	755	814	802	851	875	926	5646
5. Halifax Garrison Artillery, 1st	797	757	817	771	738	831	816	5527
6. 96th Battalion	677	747	701	829	781	848	816	5399
7. 45th Battalion, Lindsay	652	769	722	776	825	812	819	5375
8. 21st Battalion	625	820	737	806	812	847	714	5361
9. 12th Battalion	648	744	754	746	780	802	767	5241
10. 63rd Battalion	756	696	738	759	751	771	742	5213

The other teams competing finished in this order:—

11. 43rd Battalion, 1st team	576	738	797	788	703	762	801	5165
12. Queen's Own Rifles, 1st team	622	657	769	815	754	793	723	5133
13. 82nd Battalion	610	757	735	739	760	745	762	5108
14. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 1st team	638	732	776	729	753	754	711	5093
15. Gov. General's Foot Guards, 1st	614	731	766	790	709	719	728	5057
16. 8th Royal Rifles	634	799	641	707	721	777	736	5015
17. B Battery, R. C. A.	748	767	647	769	760	636	674	5001
18. Victoria Rifles, 1st team	528	733	758	784	711	716	755	4989
19. 62nd Fusiliers	598	681	708	694	734	789	774	4978
20. 57th Battalion	688	694	691	694	721	689	699	4876
21. P. E. I. Garrison Artillery	551	672	635	733	756	732	763	4842
22. Charlottetown Engineers	653	633	678	675	739	720	726	4824
23. Queen's Own Rifles, 2nd team	569	680	646	739	724	776	676	4810
24. 6th Fusiliers, 1st team	512	637	723	728	736	731	720	4787
25. F Division N. W. M. P.	616	633	676	726	676	726	714	4767
26. Saskatchewan Rifle Assn.	738	619	675	656	630	709	678	4705
27. 90th Battalion	628	600	739	695	720	593	690	4665
28. Montreal Garrison Artillery	439	665	651	740	749	739	679	4662
29. Halifax Garrison Artillery, 2nd	600	600	644	671	694	680	692	4581
30. 43rd Battalion, 2nd team	528	630	652	712	613	660	731	4526
31. 5th Royal Scots, 1st team	448	608	723	695	679	669	529	4351
32. 6th Fusiliers, 2nd team	427	544	631	601	642	690	665	4200
33. 9th Battalion	403	622	617	631	634	664	625	4196
34. 35th Battalion, Orillia team	413	482	652	711	672	600	633	4163
35. 10th Royal Grenadiers, 2nd team	526	565	595	611	611	627	587	4122
36. A Battery R. C. A.	414	559	618	595	622	669	640	4117
37. 38th Battalion	390	507	564	645	659	671	658	4094