

cided to confirm the list, after making a couple of changes consequent upon refusals to act. Thus Lieut.-Col. J. R. Wilkinson, of the 21st Essex Battalion, was chosen in place of Major Perley, H.Q.S., as an Ontario member of the Executive, and Capt. T. L. Brown, of the 54th Battalion, Richmond, was named in place of Lieut. Desbarats, Vics., as a Quebec member of the same. The officers now stand thus :

President, Lieut.-Col. The Hon. J. M. Gibson, Hamilton ; 1st Vice-President, Lieut.-Col. Anderson, Ottawa ; 2nd Vice-President, Major Delamere, Toronto.

EXECUTIVE.—*Ontario*—Major Mason, Hamilton ; Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, Essex Centre ; Major Sam Hughes, Lindsay ; Capt. Russell, Bowmanville ; Capt. W. C. Macdonald, Toronto. *Quebec*—Lieut.-Col. Miller, Quebec ; Lieut.-Col. Massey, Montreal ; Capt. Hood, Montreal ; Capt. Sims, Montreal ; Capt. Brown, 54th Battalion, Richmond. *Prince Edward Island*—Capt. Longworth, Charlottetown ; Lieut. Hooper, Charlottetown ; Lieut. Weeks, Charlottetown. *Nova Scotia*—Major Garrison, Halifax ; Capt. Barnhill, Shubenacadie ; Lieut. Dimock, Windsor. *New Brunswick*—Lieut.-Col. Maunsell, Fredericton ; Major Hartt, St. John ; Capt. Hartt, St. John. *Manitoba*—Lieut.-Col. Boswell, Winnipeg ; Major Buchan, Winnipeg ; Staff-Sergt. C. N. Mitchell, Winnipeg. *North-West Territories*—Capt. Wyld, Battleford ; Staff-Sergt. J. C. Gordon, Prince Albert ; Mr. Jewett, Regina. *British Columbia*—Lieut.-Col. Prior, Victoria ; Capt. P. A. E. Irving, Victoria ; Capt. Scoullar, New Westminster.

Treasurer, Capt. J. Bruce, Court House, Toronto ; Secretary, Pte. W. R. Pringle, 63 Front Street West, Toronto ; Asst. Secretary, Sergt. A. D. Crooks, Toronto.

The proposed rules and regulations were then discussed, the object kept in view being to so arrange as to offer inducements to all corps to take part in the League competitions ; encouragement being given to those not now having the requisite number of marksmen to commence practice without delay with a view to participation. It was decided that, as proposed, the competition should be limited to regimental teams of ten men each, no limit being placed upon the number of teams any regiment may enter. It will not be necessary to have the same men on a team each match, but when a man once fires with a team he is not to fire with any other that season. The idea of this arrangement is that, supposing one regiment enters two teams, and on some occasion a member of the first is absent, a member of the second team will not be eligible in his place, but the best man in the reserve will have to be called upon. The stipulation contained in the prospectus circular respecting the number of men to constitute teams of succeeding years was not adopted, the meeting considering that its business was with this year only. Notification having been received from members of Mounted Police rifle associations and others in the North-West, that they would like to enter the League competitions, it was decided that at the discretion of the executive association teams might be admitted from the North-West, there being no militia organization there, and consequently no possibility of regimental teams.

The proposed entrance fee of \$10 per team was confirmed, together with the proviso that where any regiment enters more than one team, the fee shall be \$10 for the first and \$5 for every subsequent team. The fund so created is to be expended in the purchase of trophies, after incidental expenses of the competition have been paid. It was deemed inadvisable to offer any money prizes, but with the view to sustaining interest in the competition it was resolved to offer not less than one prize for every five teams competing. The prizes are to be awarded for the aggregate scores of the whole season's competitions, which will be seven in number, taking places fortnightly on these Saturday afternoons : 17th and 31st May, 14th and 28th June, 12th and 26th July, and 9th August. The matches will be fired with the Snider rifle, at 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each.

The stipulation that range officers should not belong to the corps for which they act was approved of. The clause giving retired officers permission to fire on teams of their former corps was dropped, it being held that retired officers should have no privilege of the nature denied to retired n.c.o. or men. It was decided that the regulations as now agreed to should be printed and submitted to the executive for such further action as may be necessary.

The League starts under very favourable auspices, for already notification has been received of the intended entry of fifty-five teams. Many shooting centres are still unheard from, and it is calculated that the total number of teams entered will be close upon one hundred. The meeting having, at the suggestion of Col. Massey, done the MILITIA GAZETTE the honour of naming it the organ of the League and official channel for communication of its affairs, this fact will add materially to the pleasure with which we shall chronicle the events in connection with what is surely destined to be a very important factor in promoting the interests of military rifle shooting in Canada.

When the German Emperor a short time ago named one of his regiments, the 1st Dragoon Guards, after Queen Victoria, he called it the Queen of England's Own Regiment. By an Order-in-Council just issued, he decrees that the regiment shall henceforth bear the title of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland's Regiment. The German Emperor is said to have made the change in order to be in conformity with Her Majesty's official title.

The Dominion Artillery Association.

In their annual report, presented at the meeting this week, the council of the Dominion Artillery Association endorse the statement of the Secretary that the past year has been the most successful in the history of the organization. They observe that all the field batteries, with two exceptions, and thirty-one out of thirty-nine garrison batteries have affiliated, while the list of individual members shews a gratifying increase. The annual meetings for practice have been well attended by both field and garrison batteries. The success already achieved by the Ontario Artillery Association leaves no room for doubt as to the advantages which could accrue to the service at large, were other similar provincial associations organized, as they afford a stimulus to increased efficiency and enlist local sympathy and support, pecuniary and otherwise, which cannot be shared by the Dominion Association. The local distribution of prizes has been found to have a beneficial effect upon the subscription list. The council recommend that the Department of Militia and Defence be requested to increase the time allowed non-commissioned officers and gunners of all batteries that go into camp, by say four days for preliminary drill before going into camp—thus allowing the entire time in camp to be employed in performance of camp duties and other necessary work, much of which is now left undone for the want of time. Appended are some interesting extracts from the report of the executive committee :—

FIELD BATTERY PRACTICE.

1. The main features of the practice for this year consisted in the substitution of a range-finding practice, carried out during annual drill, for the preliminary practice hitherto in use, and the reduction of the actual number of competitors at the ordinary practice from sixteen to eight. These changes are in accordance with those proposed by the executive committee in its last report. Of the sixteen affiliated batteries, ten were enabled to carry out the range-finding practice, and with very satisfactory results. The range was found by two marksmen of each sub-division, the latter acting independently, and on the range being found by common shell, two rounds of shrapnel were fired from each gun.

2. The instructional value of this practice to the whole battery is very great. More attention will have to be paid in future to coming into action and opening fire with rapidity under service conditions, and the practice itself will be carried a stage further by finding the ranges by sections instead of by sub-divisions, and by using a second target when the distance of the first has been correctly found.

3. The actual competitive practice was carried out at a land range near Kingston, and was participated in at that locality by detachments from thirteen batteries—the Newcastle, Winnipeg and Welland Canal batteries fired at local headquarters during their annual camps. The scores made in most instances were very good, and afford a fair test of the relative efficiency as marksmen of each detachment. The following remarks, however, are deemed necessary for general information and future guidance :—

(a) All competitors should be previously well trained in laying a gun, and no man with defective eyesight should be selected as a possible marksman.

(b) Care should be taken in preliminary instruction in fuse boring, many bits having been broken owing to undue haste and want of experience.

(c) Very much more care should be taken in judging the effect of fire ; in most instances this can be better done by a signaller with a field glass than by the competitor, and apart from its necessity for required alterations in elevation and deflection, should be invariably practised as being an absolute necessity on service.

As a first attempt at a general meeting of field battery detachments, the competition may be considered as entirely satisfactory, and reflects much credit upon the executive staff, which was furnished by "A" Battery, R.C.A., with Major Lindsay as Camp Qr.-Master, and the experience gained by all will doubtless be turned to practical advantage in future meetings.

4. In this connection the committee strongly recommend that steps should be taken to improve the present service sights, which are manifestly too rough and coarse to do full justice to the shooting powers of the gun.

5. The drill and driving competitions for Gzowski cup and cash prizes show a decided improvement, the winning battery this year per-