

commissioned officers and men of the volunteers to compete in all matches of the association under certain restrictions, weapon for the force for many years to come. (Hear, hear.) The question of ranges, while land was easily to be got, ought to be considered by the Militia department, who had more to do with that than the association. In conclusion, he said that on leaving Canada he would carry along with him the most pleasing recollections of his intercourse with the association. (Cheers.)

Lieut.-Col. Buriand moved a vote of thanks to the Minister of Militia.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, in acknowledging the vote, said the Dominion Rifle Association and the Dominion Artillery Association were kindred institutions which kept the interest in the militia force alive in Canada. He agreed with what had been said in regard to the Snider rifle, and he trusted the Martini-Henri would be the weapon used in all future rifle competitions. (Cheers.) He was glad to be able to say that the grant would be continued to the Rifle League. (Cheers.) He said it would be his duty to take the advice of the Major-General commanding, and throw the responsibility on him. (Hear, hear.) Both he and the general were of opinion that it would be better to have a smaller and more efficient force than one merely existing on paper. (Cheers.) Those military men in the country who got up organizations for the sake of a military career and wearing a gorgeous uniform would find their career very short-lived if they did not come up to the necessary standard. (Cheers.) The Militia Department would have been the last department he would have selected for himself, but finding that he was now there he was going to do his duty no matter who was hit. (Cheers.) In conclusion, he promised to do his utmost to secure a new weapon for the force.

Lieut.-Col. Massey, commander of the last Bisley team, in moving a vote of thanks to Col. Roberts for allowing for several years the use of the Cambridge range for the Canadian team to practice at, spoke of the advantage to the team it was to have such a place, and hoped that the vote of thanks would be conveyed to Col. Roberts in such a manner that it would not appear as a mere matter of form.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the banks, the Canada club and the other donors of prizes.

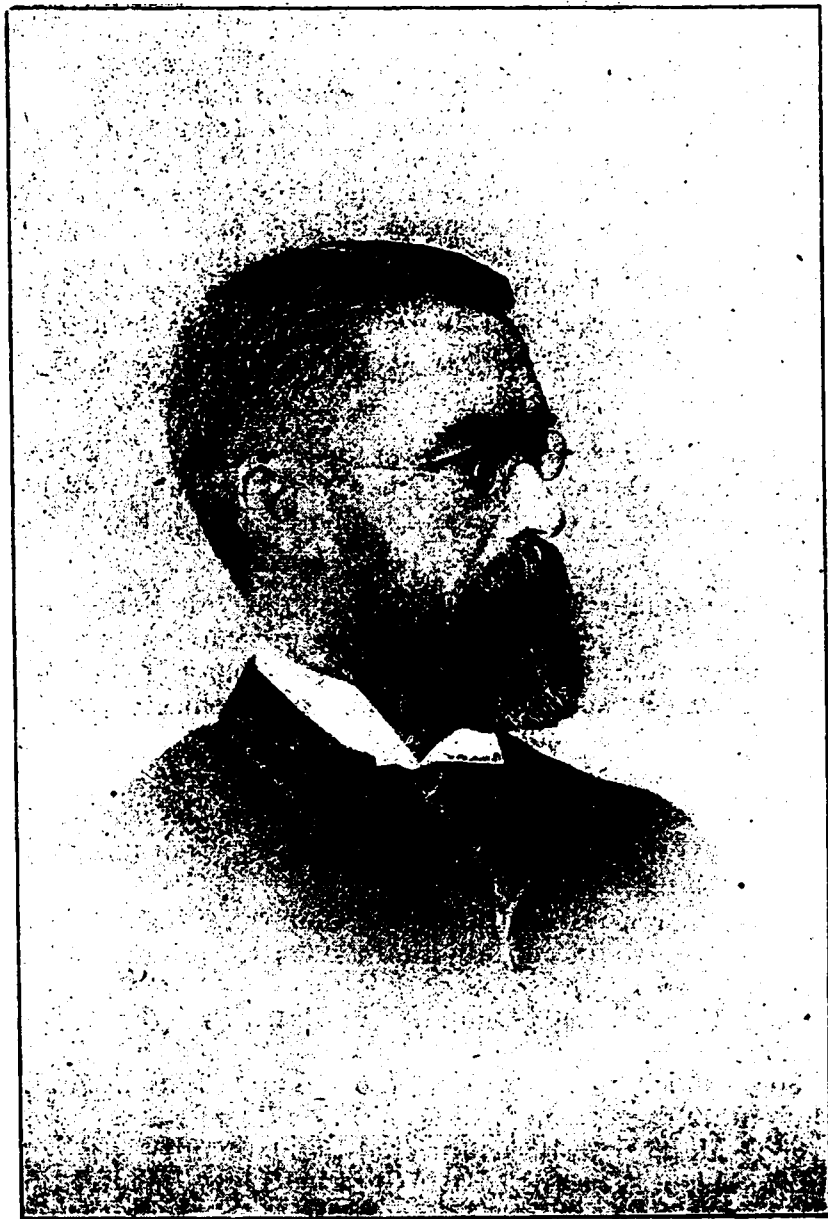
Major Hughes moved a vote of thanks to Major-General Herbert for his attendance at the ranges during the last matches, and for his uniform assistance to the association.

Major-General Herbert, after returning thanks, said that the question of a new rifle was a very important one. He would advise the association to consider the matter well before they abolished that obsolete weapon, the Snider rifle, from their matches. That is the weapon in the hands of the militia. If called out for active service that is the weapon they would be armed with. It was the weapon the rural corps brought into camp with them to do their rifle shooting, and it was important that the officers who attended the D.R. A. meetings should know how to use it. So far as the question of a new rifle was concerned, the sooner the force was armed with one the better. He was strongly in favor of a new weapon, but care should be taken not to adopt an arm which might soon become as obsolete as the Snider. He was opposed to the magazine rifle, and favored the conversion of the Martini into a small bore weapon like the Lee-Metford, without the magazine attachment. The cost of such an arm would be little more than the simple rearming with the Martini. He also spoke of the necessity for more rifle ranges, and said the new Toronto range was the only one suitable for the new long range rifles.

The chairman read a letter from His Honor Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick, president of the Association, in which he stated that owing to his public duties he would not again be a candidate for the presidency; and announcing his intention of presenting the Association with a silver challenge cup to be annually competed for on such terms as the council may decide.

His Excellency the Governor-General, in moving a vote of thanks to Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick for the admirable manner in which he had presided over the Association for the last ten years, paid a high compliment to His Honor for the great interest he had shown in the Association, and bore personal testimony to the zeal with which he had always furthered the interests of the Association.

Lieut.-Col. Gibson said that as president of the Association Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick had made a most enviable re-



LIEUT.-COL. THE HON. J. M. GIBSON,
President Dominion Rifle Association

cord; and Lieut.-Col. Kirkpatrick was making just such another record in Ontario, simply because in both cases he did his whole duty. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. Patterson said that all the members of the Association would regret Col. Kirkpatrick's resignation, as he had made a most efficient president for many years. He had pleasure in proposing as his successor Colonel the Hon. J. M. Gibson, than whom there was not a more enthusiastic rifleman in the country. (Cheers.)

Hon. Mr. Bowell, in seconding the motion, said he did so with a great deal of pleasure. Col. Gibson and he were associated together for a number of years and used to engage in the task of ink-slinging. (Laughter.) But during all the years that he had known Col. Gibson their relations had been of the most cordial and friendly character. While regretting that Col. Kirkpatrick was retiring from the presidency, he was glad to know that he was to be succeeded by a gentleman who took the deepest interest in the volunteers of Canada on all occasions and under all circumstances. (Cheers.)

Major-General Herbert, in supporting the motion, said that he might remind the meeting that Col. Gibson's battalion had won the efficiency prize for No. 2 district. The battalion had been put to a very severe inspection and had shown a remarkable degree of efficiency, which redounded with a great deal of credit to the commanding officer.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

The president-elect, in returning thanks, said he highly appreciated the honor conferred upon him, but would have preferred for a few years longer to have rubbed shoulders with the men who carried rifles on the fields of competition. He promised to further the interests of the association to the utmost of his power.

Nearly all the old officers were re-elected, except that Major Sam Hughes was appointed to take Col. Gibson's place as vice-president for Ontario; and W. B. Scarth, of Winnipeg, vice-president for Manitoba, to succeed the late Senator Girard.

Lieut. O. Sutherland moved: That, having in view the action of the council of the N. R. A. in allowing retired non-