

agreed that he is the right man in the right place, and that the militia force of Canada under his guidance will be led into more pleasant places.

THE subject of having a proper gymnasium for the use of the different corps has been a much-talked-of question for some time past. Knowing that the matter was brought before the Minister's personal attention, hopes are entertained that it will have a better chance of going through than ever before. Himself a medical man, he knows the good to be derived from such a training, and, if it is at all possible, a gymnasium class looks to be a thing of the near future. If such a class were inaugurated it would add greatly to the ranks of the different corps, and would bring the men to a higher state both physically and morally. In Toronto the men have far greater privileges. There they have their bowling alleys and revolver ranges, and besides, each company has its own armory, where the men can put in a social night without inconveniencing anyone. Here in Montreal there is just the one place, and the men have little or no inducement to attend, as there is always some company meeting or such like going on, and they cannot very well stay there. The only place left them is the shed. It does not present a very bright appearance, being lit by one or two lights, and the whole presents a very deserted aspect. If proper facilities were made, so that a gymnasium class could be conducted, the lonely, deserted feeling which hangs around the drill shed would be removed. The men would have some inducement to come there, and would at the same time receive a setting up which would help them greatly. The 2nd Regiment C.A., realizing the benefit to be derived from such an instruction, have just agreed to furnish the gun-room with all the necessary appliances for a gymnasium at a cost of several hundred dollars. This association is to be congratulated on its enterprise, and no doubt it will be taken full advantage of by the men, but all the corps have not gun-rooms which can be converted into a recreation room, neither have many of them the money to spare. It is the authorities' duty to see that the men who devote their time and energy for the good of the country should have a properly equipped establishment so that they may be kept in training during the interval between drill seasons, and at the same time help to popularize the force among the many probable recruits, who through no encouragement do not care to hang around such dead quarters as the drill shed.

THE merits of the different city regiments have been gone into a good deal since the efficiency returns were issued. It is a well-known fact that companies in different corps were "plugged" for inspection. This is done more or less by the majority of the corps, although it may not be done with the knowledge of the C.O. The officers commanding companies are the ones to blame for allowing uniforms to be issued by the sergeant in charge to men for the day only. Far better that a company turn out away down from its strength than have it bolstered up by men who are on the books of some other regiment. At the inspections this summer it was a common thing among the members of the various corps while watching their sister corps go through their inspection to pick out several who belonged to another corps altogether. This is not as it should be, and until this is rectified it will be impossible to get at the true merits of a battalion. An inspecting officer cannot tell who are "out for the day," nor can the commanding officer do so, as very often there is no time to allow him to examine the ranks carefully before the arrival of the inspecting officer. The trouble arises in a good many instances through the color-sergeant, who, wishing to keep up the good name of his company, induces some one whom he knows in another corps to take a uniform for that day. The captains in many instances shut their eyes to this, and the result is that the company is perpetrating fraud, both on the Government and on the honest captain who turns out with the men only who have signed

the service roll. Commanding officers should issue stringent regulations against such a practice, for it not only gives the regiment a bad name, but it is also unfair to the other companies of that corps, and the fact of one or two men turning out for inspection who are not connected with the corps is unfair to the battalion that turns out unaided by outsiders. For instance, there is one regiment near the top that in a commanding officer's inspection only turned out about one hundred men, and still on inspection this same regiment went on the parade ground with men who received their training at the expense of some other corps. It is claimed that five companies of another regiment should have been disqualified in shooting, and had this been done they would not have been so far up the list. It is about time that officers and men alike were awaking to the fact that the profession is being lowered by these petty and underhand tricks, and that means should be taken to stamp them out.

THE Royal Scots have entered most enthusiastically into the social evenings which were inaugurated some time ago by Major Lydon with the consent of the C.O. They take the form of a smoker, and the best talent of the regiment is brought forward. These meetings are doing a great deal of good to the regiment, for already recruiting is in a most healthy state. Major Lydon is to be congratulated on the success of this movement, and the boys thoroughly appreciate his efforts to keep them together. An important feature of the meetings are the descriptive lectures, which touch on matters military, delivered by the major.

A MEETING of a committee of "A" Squadron, D. C. R. C. Hussars, was held on Saturday night to arrange for the organization of a reading and recitation room for the use of the men. It has been decided to make a number of alterations in the Armory. Their winter's socials, which were such a success last year, will be commenced in a week or two.

AT a meeting of No. 1 Company, 2nd R.C.A., on Tuesday night, Company Sergt.-Major Harper, after 24 years service with the artillery, tendered his resignation as sergeant-major, and reverted to the rank of gunner. Is this not a good argument for the recognizing of the members of the force who put in such a length of time by granting, as is done in the Old Country, a long service decoration. This subject was mooted some time ago, and many were in hopes that the authorities would consider the matter and give something to these men who have grown grey in the service. If a decoration of this kind were granted it would be the means of inducing good men, who very often retire with about 12 or 15 years' service, to remain in their corps. Why Canada does not recognize her militia as other countries do, is a matter that is hard to account for. With new authorities at militia headquarters, it is to be hoped that some recognition will be granted those men who have put in more than 20 years' service.

CAPT. MACDOUGALL, R.R.C.I., who has been acting as brigade major during Major Roy's absence in England, will leave Montreal in a day or two for St. Johns, P.Q. During the time that Capt. Macdougall has been in Montreal he has made many friends among the officers of the district. Capt. Macdougall had charge of the temporary school for officers and non-coms, and his work was much appreciated by those who attended. His work was painstaking and every little detail was gone into with care, so that when the examinations took place the classes came out exceedingly well. When Montreal gets a permanent school it is to be hoped that Capt. Macdougall will again have charge, for his work of the past season certainly entitles him to continue the work which he so well began.

ON Thursday evening of last week the prizes won by the 2nd R.C.A. at the annual rifle meeting of the association were presented. The Queen's and Londonderry Cups were on exhibi-