

**RANGE OFFICERS.**—The Range Officer must not belong to the corps for which he is acting. He will please endeavour (when possible) not to allow more men to fire at one time than he can personally oversee, and also (when possible) to appoint register keepers from another corps than the one they act for. It will be his duty to see that all the rules, etc., are properly observed and that the conditions of competition are strictly enforced, and also to have all register keepers sign their names in full to the scores which they register, and to have the Captain of each team and himself sign score sheet. The names of those to compose team to be handed to Range Officer before commencement of firing. After first shot is fired, no change to be made in personnel of team.

**A CORPS IN CAMP.**—In the event of corps being in camp on any League match day, its team or teams may fire there on condition that they notify the Secretary a week previous, so as to enable him to make telegraphic arrangements.

**ENTRANCE FEES.**—The entrance fees are \$10.00 per regimental team, or when more than one team is entered from any corps, \$10.00 for the first and \$5.00 for each additional team of ten men.

**PRIZES.**—The entrance fees to be devoted to the purchase of trophies and badges. There will be one trophy for every five teams entered, if the funds allow, and certain individual prizes at the discretion of the Executive. All team prizes to be won by the highest aggregate scores of the seven matches.

**BADGES.**—The "League Championship" badge to be won by the highest individual aggregate scorer of the whole League. The "Trophy" badges to go to the ten members comprising the team winning the first prize trophy. The "Team" badge: Every team competing will receive a badge, to be won by the highest individual aggregate score on each team.

**D. R. A. RULES.**—Where not specially covered by League rules, the Dominion Rifle Association rules to be in force.

**DISQUALIFICATION.**—The penalty for non-observance of all rules is disqualification of team on which offender may be.

**OBJECT.**—The object of this League is to encourage rifle practice, and it is to be hoped that the older shots will help their younger comrades and also induce those who have not already made military rifle shooting their favourite pastime to do so. Competitors are urged to observe all the rules and do their share towards making the League a success, as if so it will become a permanent institution. The first annual meeting of competitors and presentation of prizes will take place at the D. R. A. matches, Ottawa, 1st September.

**SPECIAL PRIZES.**—A special prize of a field glass is presented by Mr. James Foster, Optician, Toronto, to the competitor who, in any one match during the season, comes the nearest to the possible 105 points.

All notices pertaining to the League will be published only in the CANADIAN MILITIA GAZETTE, Ottawa.

The trophies are being made by one of the leading Canadian manufacturers.

The badges are being embroidered at the military outfitting establishment of Mr. J. F. Crean, Toronto.

J. M. GIBSON, Lieut.-Col.,

JOHN BRUCE, Capt.,

President.

Treasurer.

WM. R. PRINGLE, Secretary, 63 Front St. West, Toronto.

N.B.—On account of the Ranges having to be closed on 12th July the Toronto corps will fire the fifth match on 5th July instead.

Many scientific experimenters have studied the results of the pressure and friction of the atmosphere upon bullets fired from a rifled or smooth barrel. The results of some recent English experiments are outlined briefly in the following notes: It has been found that when an elongated projectile is fired from a smooth-bore, the head of the bullet is gradually lifted until it is thrown completely over, after which the flight is very uncertain. A judiciously rifled barrel overcomes this defect. It has long been a disputed point as to whether the longer axis of a bullet preserves its original direction or whether the point droops and follows the trajectory curve. It is now believed by the best authorities that the latter obtains, as otherwise projectiles fired at a high angle would strike nearly lengthways, which has not been observed. An attempt has even been made by constructing a model bullet, mounted on a gyroscope facing a powerful fan, to demonstrate the effect of the air resistance upon a bullet. "As soon as the revolving projectile is put in position, the fan is set in rapid motion; the current of air first causes the point of the bullet to lift slightly, then it moves to the right or left (according to the direction of the spin), and eventually it makes a strong dip down toward the ground." While this is probably true with regard to the motions of a bullet discharged from a rifle barrel, it can hardly be regarded as proved, as the conditions are not the same.

## Correspondence.

This paper does not necessarily share the views expressed in correspondence published in its columns, the use of which is freely granted to writers on topics of interest to the Militia.

### STATE OF THE MILITIA.

**EDITOR MILITIA GAZETTE.**—I am much pleased to note the remarks of your correspondents B. N. W., etc., which indicate that some, at least, of our volunteers realize that it is high time something was done to increase the efficiency of the force. Let us apply business principles to the management of affairs and see that we get value for the money expended. Every one acquainted with the working of the force will admit that at present this is not the case. No sane individual would dream for a moment of employing overseers or foremen who did not understand their business, and that is exactly what we are now doing, placing officers in command who in many or in fact in most cases are deficient in training. We all know what would ensue. Let us spend what money is appropriated, first, in training our officers; when we have accomplished that we shall have made a vast stride towards the desired end. In the military schools we have the necessary machinery for doing this, why not then devote all our energies in that direction? I might also observe, *en passant*, that if our gallant Minister of War could see his way to adopt a system somewhat similar to that at present in the British Army of retiring commanding officers after a certain number of years service, it would certainly be a boon to the force. Many of the old officers won't take the trouble to qualify. They should, therefore, give place to the better instructed in modern drill and tactics.

EX-VOLUNTEER.

New Hamburg, Ont., 5th May, 1890.

Experiments have been recently carried on at Toulon with a view of determining to what extent accuracy of aim can be attained at night with the use of an electric light. A gun was mounted on a revolving platform, which also carried an electric projector. The target was fixed at a distance of between three and four kilometers, and it was found that the same accuracy could be obtained under these conditions as during daylight.

The Emperor of Germany in a recent order to his Army, enjoins commanders to set an example of self-sacrifice to officers and to check indulgence in unnecessary luxuries, the habit of making costly presents and giving frequent banquets, and so forth. He also directs that the names of officers who do not conform to the rule prescribing a simpler mode of life, shall be submitted to him. He declares that habits of luxury must be seriously and firmly opposed, and intends, to a large extent, to judge of the officer by this standard.

The London correspondent of the New York Times depicts a gloomy state of affairs in Russia. He says: "The present Czar's Government is the meanest, stupidest, and worst than even Russia has known in this century. In truth, he is a thick-headed, obstinate, unintelligent fanatic, without ability or tact enough to manage a carpenter's shop. He knows no way of meeting this universal convulsion, save by the knout, the gallows, torture, and by exile, and the worse the situation grows the more crudely and unwisely does he use his weapons of repression. All efforts to bring Russia back into the barbaric despotism of Nicholas have ignominiously failed, and at last the Czar is face to face with an openly-hostile nation."

Major General Schofield has addressed an interesting communication to Senator Plumb in regard to a proposed reform in the chaplain service of the U. S. Army, saying very sensibly: "After much and careful study of this subject my impression is that the best policy would be to leave the various garrisons in the army free to select religious ministers of their own choice as other communities in this country do, the action of Congress to be limited to supplying the necessary money to pay for their services, and that of the War Department to regulating the mode of their selection, etc. In this manner a large proportion of the troops, if not all could have the services of their own faith at least a part of the time, which they do not now. Our system of army chaplains is an attempt to follow the custom of foreign countries, where one religion, and only one, is recognized and supported by the Government: a system not applicable to our institutions. Our military legislation has never yet recognized the principles of religious liberty by providing the soldier at remote frontier stations with the religious service which he craves and needs. On the contrary, such remote garrisons are provided with chaplains in whose religious opinions and mode of worship the great majority of the troops do not believe. Yet wonder is expressed that so little interest is manifested in religious services at the military posts. Give the army religious liberty, and assist the men to obtain the religious ministrations of which they feel the need, and there will be the same interest in the army as elsewhere."