

of coming to Ottawa. Let the government pay the transport only, not the entrance fee, of one man from every unit, even from the most remote part of Canada, to Ottawa. If my hon. friends have any suggestions to make in that regard I will be glad to hear them.

Mr. SHARPE (North Ontario). I think that the idea of my hon. friend the Minister of Militia and Defence is a good one, and I also think that the suggestion of the hon. member for Carleton, N.B. (Mr. Carvell) is along the right lines, because the ultimate object of the training which is given in the militia is to produce good shots. I would like to see the minister allow the captains of the companies to nominate one or two shots, and give them their transport to the annual meeting of the provincial associations.

Mr. CARVELL. I am afraid you would have trouble there. Each man must work his own way to the meeting.

Mr. SHARPE (North Ontario). I do not think so. Most of the men who attend the association meeting are pot hunters. You cannot get men to go to the association meeting and compete with good shots. If the minister would allow the officers to nominate two, three, or four men and give them transport to the provincial association meeting it would give a great impetus to the shooting, and the best men then could come down to Ottawa, after having gone to the meeting of the provincial association, at the expense of the department. That would produce a great deal of interest in rifle shooting, it would encourage young shots and not pot hunters, and it would be a move upon right lines.

Mr. CARVELL. At this late hour I do not propose to discuss the question in all its details. The idea of the minister, I think, is a good one. But I am afraid that if he allowed these men to be appointed or selected by the commanding officer there might be a charge of partiality. I would prefer to let each man win his own spurs in his own corps. That is a matter of detail. I have no doubt the minister will be able to work out something.

Mr. MORPHY. At the annual camp in London two years ago, the Militia department placed in the hands of the men the Ross rifle, and told them to shoot with it. At that time the regulation was, that the men would be paid the increase for efficiency in shooting and as the men were absolutely unacquainted with this rifle, the result was miserable shooting, and widespread discontent with the department and criticism of it by the men. That extended through the whole western district of On-

tario, because the men thought it was a trick of the government to take from them the pay they would otherwise have earned, in addition to the miserable pittance they receive. I cannot conceive that any government would descend to such a practice, nor do I make such a charge against the late government, but the result of it was, that the men fell away from the regiments, in pique and anger. I would ask the Minister of Militia to bear that incident in mind. I believe that mainly because of it, the 28th regiment did not go into the annual instruction camp last year, and owing to the widespread discontent that prevailed, because of the incident, it has had the effect of practically killing the regiment. It seems to me that the Minister of Militia would be well advised to make a note of that. Then, with regard to regimental bands, I may say that the 28th regiment's band has been dead for years, and the regiment has to depend for its music on the Grand Trunk band, of the City of Stratford. The Wellington regiment the 30th once had a splendid band, but its headquarters are now fifty-five miles away from the regimental headquarters. I mention this, so as to impress upon the minister that if the regiments are going to have bands, they should be regimental bands at headquarters. For my own part, I feel that whether through intent or not, the regimental service of this country has fallen to a very low standard, and I think something should be done. After listening to the remarks made by hon. gentlemen on both sides, I have come to the conclusion that there is no way in this country of developing the militia service other than through the training of the young men of the country in the schools and colleges of the Dominion. You cannot get men in this country to go out for seventy-five cents and a dollar a day and wear out a pair of four dollar boots in the dews of the morning, for fun and pleasure. You have to recognize that times have changed. There has been a good deal said about automobiles to-night. I think the whole department wants to be shaken up, and if the minister will use an automobile for himself instead of giving it to his officials, and go over the ground in one of these machines, he might be doing a great service to the country.

Mr. MACDONALD. What is the attitude of the National Rifle Association with regard to the sights on the Ross rifle?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). I heard unofficially, that the Dominion Rifle Association had communicated with the National Rifle Association, and that the latter have