

service of his country. Although Sir Donald had never stood behind a heavy piece of artillery, he, perhaps, gave that branch of the service as much attention as he did our comrades of the Rifle Association. The absence of the Hon. the Minister of Militia, Dr. Borden, through an unfortunate accident, was much to be deplored. Doctor Borden was, he felt, one of themselves—just the kind of man they had been praying for for years—one who could sympathize with the militia in all their troubles, and who would exert himself to obtain for the force all that lay in his power. He could not get all that the force needed—as a former Minister of the Crown he knew what that meant—but the object before him was a commendable one, to bring the force up to the state of efficiency that is so desirable.

The Annual Report of the Association was not complete yet, for the reason that the competitions have not yet been all carried out. It was issued, however, complete to date in the form of an Appendix, and contained valuable information with which Lt.-Colonel Irwin would deal more fully.

With regard to the Shoeburyness Team, they were fortunate in the selection of men who demonstrated their ability to take part in the defence of the Empire. Credit for their notable exploits was, in the main, due to Lt.-Colonel Cole, of Montreal, for be it known, that without his personal pluck and energy there would have been no team sent over at all. He could congratulate Lt.-Colonel Cole and his team on the way they had upheld the honor of Canada. The team was successful in repository drill, but the highest feather in their cap was carrying off the Queen's Prize. It ought to be a stimulus to bring their batteries up to the highest stage of perfection.

He was extremely sorry that there did not appear to be any chance of sending a team to England this year. The amount of money being expended on sending over troops to participate in the Diamond Jubilee celebration was so considerable as to preclude any further large expenditure by the Federal authorities for this season. The very same cause—the Jubilee celebration—had thrown a block in the way of the English team of Artillerymen visiting Canada this summer. They could not be spared from home, as he had been very sorry to learn at the last moment.

One matter of the very greatest importance had been talked over in Council, and would now be laid before the government. This was the desirability of increasing the vote of Parliament to the Artillery Association. As a military man, leaving politics aside, he was forcibly impressed with the opinion that they had the very best of grounds on which to base their