

BISLEY.

ATHLETIC TESTS IN GREAT HEAT.

GOOD NAVAL SHOOTING.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

BISLEY, July 11.

When reveille this morning awakened the N.R.A. camp at Bisley there was a heavy mist which foreshadowed great heat later. The portent was not belied, for this has been Bisley's hottest day. Shade records are of no importance here—there is no shade on the ranges. It is the sun temperature which matters at the firing point. At 11 a.m. the official thermometer showed the solar temperature to be 138deg. F. By 3 p.m., the hottest hour of the day, it had risen to 142.5deg. I have selected these hours because two of the most strenuous competitions of the whole meeting were then in progress. To-day, in fact, has been one of athletic tests, in which speed and condition have counted for almost as much as marksmanship.

About 11 a.m. naval men and Marines were competing for the Aldershot Cup under range conditions identical with those of the match last night for the King's Medal. It was the first time during the present meeting when bluejackets as a body have "shot up the range"—the accepted definition of the fire with movement practice in which competitors fire at each 100 yards from 800 to 100, and "double" over the intervening distances.

"Doubling" at Bisley is very different from that on a parade ground. The Century range is intersected by gullies and ditches of varying depths and covered with knee-deep ling, and it presents many traps and pitfalls, which the most wary can seldom entirely avoid. It was over such ground, under a flaming sun, with the temperature at 138deg., that the seamen, in their heavy sombre clothing, made their debut in the "shoot up the range" practice. They acquitted themselves wonderfully well—quite as well, when difference of temperature is considered, as their military comrades did last night. The Aldershot Cup match was fought out by teams of eight, and was won by the Marine Light Infantry from Forton Barracks, after a desperate tussle with the men from H.M.S. Excellent at Whale Island. The best scores in the winning aggregate were made by Colour-sergeant Westcott. His scores compare well with those of Sergeant Mapp, the King's Medallist, last night, having regard to the 20deg. difference in temperature.

	Rapid	Snap	rate	move-	Total
				ment	
Sgt. Mapp (R.A.S.)	42	21	45	43	151
Col.-Sgt. Westcott	41	16	45	47	149

MARKSMEN'S OBSTACLE RACE.

The competition which was held when the heat was greatest—the Hamilton-Leigh—included jumping a 3ft. fence, scaling a 6ft. wall, diving through a rope maze, and, finally, firing upon 18in. discs 300 yards away that had been increasing at the rate of one every five seconds from the time the marksmen began their race to the firing point.

The majority of the public school cadets, of whom some five hundred are in camp to-day, have been practising for to-morrow's Ashburton by taking out ticket after ticket for the unlimited individual shoot for prizes presented by Messrs. Gale and Polden. Others—272 of them in all—shot as teams of eight this evening in the snap-shooting match for the *Daily Graphic* challenge trophy. Later one selected competitor from each of the 34 snap-shooting teams shot a rapid match at 200 yards. Sergeant T. H. Kelsey (Uppingham) did some very consistent shooting. Tying for first place with Corporal T. H. Petch (Rossall) with 46 points of a possible 50, Kelsey scored 46 again in the shoot-off, and won the gold medal. Petch took the silver medal, and Lance-Corporal A. Earleley (Trent), with 45, won the bronze medal.

MATCH RIFLE EVENTS.

Two match rifle competitions were held on the Stickledown Ranges during the day, the Albert at 900, 1,000, and 1,100 yards, and the Wimbledon Cup at 1,100 yards. The Albert was won by Mr. Maurice Blood, the winner of the Whitehead Memorial Cup. Originally scheduled for to-morrow, the Wimbledon was brought forward in order to lighten the crowded programme which has been arranged for Ashburton Day. The Wimbledon was won by Lord Cottesloe, who, like Mr. Blood, secured his second match rifle trophy of the meeting.

The following are the leading scores in to-day's chief events:—

ALDERSHOT CHALLENGER CUP.—R. Navy and R. Marine teams of 8; Service rifle as issued; rapid and snap at 300 yards, deliberate and with movement at 800; 18 shots per man at each practice; h.p. collective score: 1,440 points:—

Challenge Cup won by R.M.L.I. (Plymouth). Scores:—

	Rapid	Snap	rate	move-	Total
				ment	
Col.-Sgt. Westcott	31	15	45	47	148
Cpl. F. Hivock	38	21	42	43	142
Sgt. C. Budd	34	24	34	41	133
Col.-Sgt. J. Burgess	27	21	40	43	131
Sgt. B. H. Lee	33	15	36	42	126
Cpl. A. J. Howard	30	3	44	43	120
Sgt. T. Harrett	31	6	44	41	122
Sgt. C. W. Morgan	37	21	37	27	122

288	126	322	327	1,053
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Next best scores:—

2. H.M.S. Excellent	298	114	320	316	1,048
3. H.M.S. Victory	258	128	319	305	907
4. R. Marine Artillery	260	90	311	318	982
5. H.M.S. Pembroke	281	114	311	292	978
6. R.M.L.I. (Plymouth)	257	96	313	312	977
7. H.M.S. Victory	267	102	310	294	973
8. R. Marine Depot	239	75	238	302	902

HAMILTON LEIGH CHALLENGER CUP.—Services teams of four; Service rifle as issued; 10 rounds each at 300 yards snap shooting target after covering obstacle course of 100 yards.

1. Rifle Depot, Winchester	—	—	—	53 seconds
2. Small Arms School	—	—	—	54 "
3. H.M.S. Excellent	—	—	—	55 "
4. H.M.S. Victory	—	—	—	61 "

PUBLIC SCHOOLS SNAP-SHOOTING MATCH.—Junior O.T.C.—Teams of 3, Service rifle as issued; 200 yards—Five rounds per man snap and ten rapid, prone position—H.P. collective score, 600 points.

Challenge Trophy.—Charterhouse:—Cadet L. P. Jameson Evans, 40; Cadet W. F. Holman, 39; L.-Cpl. G. H. Chantrell, 37; L.-Cpl. G. N. Marks, 39; L.-Cpl. C. Jameson Evans, 30; Cadet A. Courtneil, 37; Cadet W. A. A. D. Uscher, 35; Cadet M. J. E. Morgan, 39. Total, 185.

Next best scores:—Bradfield, 164; Denstone, 153; Rossall, 144; Haverbury, 138; Bromsgrove, 133; Cranleigh, 131; Uppingham, 128; West Buckland, 123; Shrewsbury, 124.

A protest was lodged late to-night in connexion with the Hamilton Leigh match, which will be considered by the Council to-morrow.