

Lydon, of Montreal, in regard to the difficulty he has in connection with the clothing issued to the cadets. I wish my hon. friend (Mr. Hughes), would put his suggestion into writing later on.

Section 60 is the same as section 57 of the present law slightly modified. The word 'permission' in the Bill is substituted for the word 'order' in the Act. It reads: by 'permission' of the commanding officer. Section 61 is new.

Mr. MR. SAM. HUGHES. Where did the minister get that?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. From the Commonwealth Defence Bill.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. It is very badly worded.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Does the hon. gentleman object to the sense?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Is it provided by the imperial regulations?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. It is not in the Imperial Act, but I think it is in the regulations.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. There must be some army regulations about it, because I think the question arose in Halifax, and the permission of the general officer commanding had to be obtained before some of the men could be allowed to appear on the stage.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. It seems to be necessary to make some provision of the kind.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Lest there be some question about it, I would suggest that the minister, in addition to the stage play, and music hall, and circus performances, would also include the Salvation Army.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. You want to get me into trouble.

Section 62 is also from the same source, and I suppose it would be subject to the same criticism. Section 63 replaces sections 51 and 59 of the present law.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Section 62 is all right, and I think it was the one referred to in the Halifax case.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Section 63 is a change from the present law. The number of days specified in the present law is from 12 to 16, and it is changed now to read: 'not less than 12 days or more than 30 days in each year.' I might repeat the explanation in regard to that which I made in introducing the Bill. If a central camp, as is now proposed, should be established in Canada, 16 days would be altogether too short to carry out the necessary instructions, and therefore we are taking power here to increase the number of days to 30 for a specific reason. I may say, however, there is no intention at present to increase the term of the annual drill beyond the 12 days.

Sir F. W. BORDEN.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. The point I raised earlier in the debate about the permanent force being continuously on service would have to come in here.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. I want to get all these proposed amendments into 'Hansard' of to-day, and I want to say now that it is proposed to amend section 29, so that it will read:

The permanent force shall consist of such permanently embodied corps, not exceeding 2,000 men, enrolled for continuous service, as are, from time to time, authorized by the Governor in Council.

That will meet the point which my hon. friend has raised that we have nowhere in this Act, provided that the men of the permanent force shall be continuously employed.

Mr. A. T. THOMPSON. Inasmuch as the interpretation clause defines 'militia' to mean 'all the military force of Canada,' would it not be better to use the words 'non-permanent militia' in this clause?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. His Majesty may order as few or as many as he chooses; he is not compelled under this law to order the permanent force. As a matter of fact, it is intended though, to send the permanent force to the central camps very largely for the purpose of teaching the officers who may be assembled from all parts of the Dominion.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. And parliament has always recognized, ever since the permanent force was organized, that that very distinction should be avoided.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Yes.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. That is, not to let it be regarded that the permanent force is in any sense a regular force.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. It is active militia.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. It is part of the active militia.

Mr. JABEL ROBINSON. I ask the hon. the Minister of Militia if he has made any provision for rifle practice by the militia?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. My hon. friend will find that later on.

On section 64.—Pay of permanent force.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. This is a new clause, in that it differs materially from the present law. The present pay for the militia is provided for in section 59 of the present law. Section 64 of the new Bill reads as follows:

Officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers of the permanent force shall be entitled to daily pay and allowances at rates to be prescribed.