

tuted this movement to cull out these men. That movement was started long before the present Overseas Minister of Militia went to England.

QUEBEC PILOTS.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. C. A. GAUVREAU (Témiscouata): Has the Minister of Marine and Fisheries made any decision in regard to the five Quebec pilots who, after being examined by Dr. Fritz, of Halifax, have been declared unfit for service on account of their eyesight? I spoke to the minister before in regard to the matter.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: I took the matter up immediately, but I have not as yet received word from Quebec. As soon as I do, I shall be glad to inform the hon. member.

MILITARY SERVICE ACT—MEDICAL BOARDS.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. W. F. KAY (Missisquoi): I should like to know from the Minister of Militia if there are in existence, and, if not, if there will be established immediately in the country districts, medical boards at which the men between the ages of twenty and twenty-two may be examined without delay?

Major-General MEWBURN: The men between the ages of twenty and twenty-two who have been ordered to report are receiving notices to report at certain specified places. The Registrars in each district, in sending out those notices, are giving the men the actual places at which they are to report. Medical Boards have been or are being established at those points, so that the men will have their medical examination with as little delay as possible. I do not think it will be possible to have those medical boards established in all parts of the country. The great difficulty in carrying out the Military Service Act is to get sufficient medical officers to conduct the examinations. The men, however, will be ordered to report at the headquarters of the various depot battalions, and in the notice ordering each man to report, the name of the place at which he is to report will be given.

COMMANDING OFFICERS FIFTH DIVISION.

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. D. SUTHERLAND (South Oxford): I should like to ask the Minister of Militia [Sir Sam Hughes.]

with regard to the correctness of the following Canadian Associated Press cable despatch, and as to whether he has any information to give the House on the matter:

London, April 29.—The following are gazetted as ceasing to command battalions: Lieut.-Cols. A. E. Wings, M. Barre, B. M. Green, T. P. Rowland, H. E. Cutcliffe, D. M. Sutherland.

Major-General MEWBURN: I have no direct information from overseas, but it is quite fair to conclude that those officers were officers commanding battalions in the Fifth Division, which was subsequently broken up. As they gave up the command of the various battalions in the Fifth Division on the units being transferred to the reserve battalions, the battalions as battalions would thus cease to exist.

THE BUDGET.

The House resumed the debate on the motion of Hon. A. K. Maclean (Acting Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the House to go into Committee of Ways and Means (resumed from April 30).

Mr. HUME CRONYN (London): Mr. Speaker, complaint has been made both inside and outside of this House that its members occasionally occupy too much time in discussing matters not pertaining to the very pressing questions before the nation at this time. I venture, however, to think that this session will stand out in comparison with those of former days as, in the main, innocent of any such charge. In any event, if I may be allowed to say a word as representing the new members, they will, I think, be proved to be innocent of any such breach, no matter into what evil habits they may fall in later years. The subject before the House is one of vital importance, and for that reason I venture to offer some comment and criticism on the Budget. It deals with one of the five indispensable requisites without which we are unable to carry on the war. Those requisites, as commonly stated, are men, money, munitions, ships and food. First one and then another is forced to the front as perhaps of more immediate need; but, if we hope to succeed, none of them can be discarded.

From the first day of the war until the dawn of the day of peace—yes, and even far beyond that whitest stone in all the calendar—the need of money and of sound financing will be urgent. Thus far in the debate I have not noticed any criticism of the main scheme of this country's financing of the