

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN PARLIAMENT.

War Expenditure by Departments.—

February 28th.—Hon. P. E. Blondin told Mr. A. K. MacLean (Halifax), that apart from war expenditures by the Militia Dept., between April 1st, 1915 and Jan. 31st, 1916, various amounts totaling \$1,890,267 had been spent on war account by other departments of the Government. The chief items were: Dept. of Justice \$1,218,643; Post Office Department \$272,372; Dept. of Railways and Canals \$125,027; Public Works Dept. \$76,000; Finance Dept. \$73,428. The Naval Service Dept. spent in that time \$5,280,568.

Price of Militia Remounts.—

February 28th.—Sir Sam Hughes told Mr. J. H. Sinclair, M.P. (Guysborough) that the average price paid for horses for use of the Canadian Forces from the opening of the war until March 31st, 1915 was \$162.53 each.

Returned Soldiers in Civil Service.—

March 1st.—Hon. P. E. Blondin told Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, that nineteen soldiers had been given employment in the various branches of the Civil Service, outside of the Department of Militia and Defence in which 260 returned soldiers had been given employment.

The Population of Canada.—

March 1st.—Sir George Foster told Mr. J. A. C. Ethier (Two Mountains) that the total population of Canada is 7,206,643; that the male population is 3,821,995; that the male population from ten to nineteen years inclusive is 706,155; from 20 to 29 years inclusive is 756,349; and from 30 to 39 years inclusive 568,214; that according to the above statistics the proportion of the male population from 19 to 40 years which would remain in the country after the recruiting or enlisting of 500,000 men in Canada would be 62%.

Supply of War Horses in Canada.—

March 2nd.—Sir Sam Hughes told Mr. W. F. Kay, M.P. (Missisquoi) that the Government has on hand at the present time for military purposes 1,769 horses, which are at the various headquarters throughout Canada; that it is not the intention of the Government to buy any more horses for military purposes during the present year, and that the Canadian Government has not purchased horses for military purposes outside of Canada.

M.P.'s on Military Service.—

March 9th.—Sir Robert Borden told Mr. J. J. Hughes (Kings, P.E.I.), that the Government was informed that up to the end of the present fiscal year Members of Parliament in the United Kingdom, serving with the Forces, draw their sessional indemnity and also their service pay, but that they were also informed that Premier Asquith has announced his intention of introducing a resolution which would provide that no Member of Parliament, serving with the Forces can draw both indemnity and service pay; as to similar action by the Government of Canada, the subject is under consideration.

Farm Laborers from United States.—

March 20th.—Hon. W. J. Roche told Mr. W. A. Buchanan, M.P. (Medicine Hat), that the Govern-

ment has undertaken to assist in bringing farm laborers from the United States into Canada, and has placed advertisements in 5,500 newspapers in the United States for that purpose, and has also arranged with the railway companies for a one-cent per mile rate for farm laborers from the international boundary to destination; that in determining the number of men required for farm labor in Canada, the Dominion Government is accepting the estimates of Provincial Governments as to the demands for farm help.

Travelling Expenses of the Minister of Militia.—

March 27th.—Hon. W. E. Kemp (Acting Minister of Militia) told Mr. Michaud, M.P. (Victoria, N.B.) that since August 1st, 1914, the Department of Militia and Defence has paid out for Major-General Sir Sam Hughes, travelling expenses of all kinds \$10,502.74, special trains \$4,583.67, and civil government contingencies \$500.

War Supplies—Hay and Oats.—

March 29th.—Hon. A. E. Kemp (Acting Minister of Militia), told Mr. W. A. Buchanan, M.P. (Medicine Hat) that the Militia Dept. had purchased in Alberta 995 tons of hay at an average price of \$18.70 per ton and 30,175 bushels of oats at an average price of 68½¢ per bushel.

Canadian Overseas Forces.—

March 30th.—Sir Robert Borden told Hon. Chas. Marcell, that up to the present time the total enlistment in Canada has been 290,000 of all ranks, making no reduction on account of casualties; in Great Britain and at the Front there are approximately 112,000; in Canada there are approximately 125,000; casualties of every description number 22,000, and wastage 21,700, making a total of 290,000; that the total expenditure for war purposes was \$187,000,000 to the end of February, 1916; that the Government had always taken pains to ascertain the views of the Imperial authorities, particularly the views of the War Office before deciding on the number of men to be enlisted in Canada; that the time required to raise the balance of 500,000 Canadians cannot yet be foreseen as reasonable regard must be had for the necessities of agriculture and other industries.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

1916.
March.

- 1 MANITOBA LEGISLATURE passes unanimous resolution in favor of FREE WHEAT.
- 2 OPENING OF BRITISH COLUMBIA LEGISLATURE. ANDREW BRODER, M.P. (Dundas) and DAVID HENDERSON, M.P. (Halton), appointed to Privy Council.
- 4 PROVINCIAL BY-ELECTION, VICTORIA, B.C., H. C. Brewster, Provincial Liberal Leader, elected by majority of 2,397 over Hon. A. C. Flummerfelt (Conservative), Minister of Finance.
- LINCOLN (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at St. Catharines.
- 5 HON. R. ROGERS at recruiting meeting, Toronto.
- 9 SIR SAM HUGHES leaves Ottawa for New York, en route to England.
- 11 PEEL (Ont.) LIBERALS, annual meeting at Brampton. CARLETON (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, meeting at Stittsville, decides to await decision of Government re by-election for vacancy caused by resignation of W. F. Garland before holding nominating convention.
- 13 MANITOBA TEMPERANCE ACT, referendum results in vote of 48,936 for and 25,293 against the Act. Majority, 23,643.
- 14 SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATURE PROROGUES.
- 16 QUEBEC LEGISLATURE PROROGUES.
- 18 WEST YORK (Ont.) LIBERALS, annual meeting at Weston.
- 19 HON. A. MEIGHEN at recruiting meeting, Toronto.
- 22 HON. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX, address before Congress of Railway Engineering, Chicago, on "Canada and the Anglo-American Entente."
- 25 WEST YORK (Ont.) CONSERVATIVES, annual meeting at Weston.