

as to the Petawawa camp. The only large training area in the Dominion of Canada now is the Petawawa camp. Troops from all over the Dominion are brought there at great expense for training. It is our intention to have in every military division a similar training area, perhaps not so large, and we can pay for it. See what can be saved. Take the extra pay now spent in freight, and in bringing these men from their own distant province to Petawawa, and with that money we can fit a training area almost at a man's own door in every province, not only for selected corps, but for the entire troops, who may turn out for two or three days' manoeuvres. Now I will come to my hon. friend from Pictou (Mr. Macdonald), I have kept him for the last because, being my adviser, counsellor and friend, I will wind up with him. He has referred to the general policy of the cadet system. My idea is that the best way to create a militia is to train the youth of the country. I have absolute faith in a boy of ten, twelve and fifteen years of age, he is as capable of controlling himself, and in 999 cases out of 1,000, does control himself as well as a man. Who has not seen boy scouts, little lads of 6, 8, 9 years of age conducting themselves like men? I saw in the city of Toronto last year young lads coming from the county of Waterloo 50 or 70 miles away, camping along the roadside at night, with no guides, not having their parents with them, and yet they were keeping themselves perfectly straight. They conducted themselves like perfect gentlemen while they were coming to camp, and returning from the camp. Don't be afraid to trust the boys, and you will never have reason to regret it. When young lads of this age have got a practical experience, they will never forget it. Look at the boys' camps conducted all over Canada by the various schools and colleges. There is hardly a school that has not a boys' club, there is hardly a church or Christian association that has not a boys' club. They go at their own expense for three or four days in camp, and the result is a splendid upbuilding of the manhood of these boys. Why should we be afraid to trust the boys going to these camps? There is no danger that they will not be well looked after. I can tell my hon. friend that from every province in this Dominion I have offers from teachers and clergymen, from the Young Men's Christian Associations, from the Salvation Army, asking me if they can be of any service in the camps, and offering to give their time freely in order to help the lads along. More than that, the Women's Christian Associations in many cases are taking the matter up and propose looking after these lads in their own localities. I have no fear whatever for

these camps. I am satisfied that a boy who is trained to act on his own responsibility can be trusted.

Mr. CARVELL. The hon. gentleman mentions offers that come from all these sources, are they for the purpose of encouraging the minister in the course he is taking, or is it because they are afraid of the consequences and are trying to minimize them as much as possible?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). The men of the Young Men's Christian Association who are taking this matter up have only the desire to build up the manhood of the boys. Take Mr. Gartshore, of Toronto, take Colonel Langton, who have waited upon us and said, Your movement is the greatest thing that ever struck this country. One gentleman representing the cadet corps of a city in Quebec came to me and said: Will you give me a marquee to go into camp, I want to be out with my boys, I want to keep the boys from my school under my own eyes. I said, yes, I will give you a marquee. The Y.M.C.A. leaders have told me: We have 20 trained expert physical instructors, which we will add to your military instructors, and it will not cost you a cent. They are interested in the upbuilding of the youth. They do not go through the world fearing to trust the boys and fearing to trust the girls.

Mr. NESBITT. As I understand the minister, it is not his purpose to mix the cadet corps with the ordinary militia. May I ask him then under whose control the cadet corps will be?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). There will be officers appointed especially to look after them.

Mr. NESBITT. Will they have their own instructors?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). So far as possible. As I have said, we have already offers from Y.M.C.A.'s of Canada of 20 permanent instructors, and we have offers of assistance from the various schools and colleges of instructors for the cadet corps.

Mr. NESBITT. The instructor who has been with the boys at school knows them better and is more capable, if he is a capable instructor, of taking charge of them than any person else.

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). That is right.

Mr. NESBITT. I have been a very warm supporter all my life of this cadet corps movement. But, I would warn the minister against making it a militant movement as some of the parents might object to their children taking part in a militia movement who would not object to them being