

calls for service in aid of the civil power, which alone was alluded to in the former notice. That matter, however, seems to be the main purpose of the bill. It will be noticed that additional precautions are provided against loss to the Dominion treasury through the calling out of the militia for local purposes, but there is no proposition for adequate compensation to the citizen soldier thus called away from his daily employ. The bill has been made public as early as possible with a view to mature consideration before adoption, and suggestions in the way of amendment or addition have been invited. It is in order, therefore, to lay before the attention of the Minister of Militia, the claim of the force for such compensation, and to request an amendment accordingly of the pay clause which he proposes to enact.

The proposition contained in the bill above alluded to, to grant a step of honorary rank to officers retiring from the militia, will be heard with great interest, and we fancy with some disapproval, unless it is intended that such discretion shall be exercised in bestowing the honours that only conspicuous merit shall be rewarded. The great mass of even the well-informed public will not remember or understand the difference between the "honorary" and the more honourable distinctions earned by long and patient service, and the value of the military titles will suffer in consequence.

THE MILITIA ACT AMENDMENTS.

The following is the text of the bill introduced in the House of Commons by Sir Adolphe Caron, just before prorogation, and which will be proceeded with next session, with such amendments as may be suggested:—

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

(1) Sub-sections five and six of section thirty-four of "*The Militia Act*," chapter forty-one of the Revised Statutes, are hereby repealed and the following sub-sections substituted therefor:—

"5. The senior officer of militia shall, immediately upon receipt of such requisition, notify, in writing, the chairman or justices making such requisition of the amount which will be required to defray, for a period of eight days, the expenses and allowances, according to this Act, of the active militia whom it is proposed to call out; and he shall not comply with any such requisition until the amount has been deposited with him; and if, on or before the expiration of the seventh day after the militia is called out, a further deposit of a like amount to cover a further period of eight days is not paid to the senior officer of militia, such neglect to make a second deposit shall be deemed to be a declaration that the services of the active militia are no longer required in the premises, and they shall be commanded to return to headquarters and shall be there dismissed; Provided always, that in the case of a sudden riot, disturbance of the peace, or other emergency which, in the opinion of the senior officer of militia, may result in loss of life or destruction of property, such senior officer may dispense with such deposit:

"6. When the active militia or any corps thereof not at the time actually in the receipt of pay from the Government of Canada, is so called out in aid of the civil power, they shall be paid out of the amount deposited as hereinbefore provided, while so employed, the sums authorized to be paid for actual service to officers and men, and one dollar per diem for each horse actually and necessarily

used by them, together with an allowance of one dollar to each officer and fifty cents to each man per diem in lieu of subsistence, and fifty cents per diem in lieu of forage for each horse,—and in addition, the cost of providing them with proper lodging, and with stabling for their horses, (unless such lodging and stabling are furnished) together with the reasonable cost of transport, shall be defrayed out of the amount so deposited; but if the corps so called out is at the time actually in the receipt of pay from the Government of Canada, the amount deposited as hereinbefore provided shall be paid to the commanding officer and shall, immediately after the completion of the service for which the corps was called out, be paid by him to the Minister of Finance and Receiver General:

"7. The senior officer of militia with whom the deposit is made shall prepare an account in duplicate of his expenditure under the foregoing provisions and shall transmit one copy thereof to the Minister of Militia and Defence, and shall transmit the other copy to the person by whom the deposit was made, and he shall at the same time pay to the person by whom the deposit was made the balance of such deposit remaining unexpended:

"8. If the riot or disturbance or other emergency occurs, or is anticipated, in a locality in which no municipal organization exists, the notification and estimate shall be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor of the Province or Territory in which such locality is situated; and in such case the provisions of this section shall, except as hereinafter provided, apply in like manner as if the Lieutenant Governor in Council was the authority in this section before mentioned:

"9. No officer, non-commissioned officer or man enlisted for continuous service in a corps constituted under section twenty-eight of this Act, or attached from time to time for instruction to such corps, shall be kept on active service under the provisions of this section for more than forty-eight hours, without the permission of the Minister of Militia and Defence, and no such officer, non-commissioned officer or man shall have any claim for extra pay for such service; Provided always, that the officer commanding such corps shall receive a deposit of such sum as will indemnify the Government for any loss during such forty-eight hours of active service:

"10. Notwithstanding anything in this section contained the Governor in Council may authorize the officer to whom any such requisition as aforesaid is made, to call out such portion of the active militia as he considers necessary under the circumstances, although the deposit hereinbefore mentioned has not been made; and in such case the expenses and allowances which such deposit is intended to cover may be advanced in the first instance out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada, by authority of the Governor in Council; but if such advance is made, the same shall be deemed to be a debt due to Her Majesty, for the public uses of Canada, by the authority by whom the deposit should have been made, or by whom the guarantee hereinafter mentioned was or should have been given."

(2) Sub-section five of section thirty-six of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"5. Such pay and allowances, and the reasonable cost of transport to and from the place where the services of the force are required, may be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada by authority of the Governor in Council: but if so paid the amount shall be deemed to be a debt due to Her Majesty, for the public uses of Canada, by the Government of the North west Territories."

(3.) Section forty-five of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:—

"45. Officers holding commissions in the militia may be placed on the retired list with honorary rank, not exceeding