

employed. My Colleagues and I, after the most serious thought, concur in that conclusion, and I sincerely hope that the House and the country will accept our judgment. After all, if we are worthy of the task of organizing our military forces, we would hope to have the support of Canadians generally, regarding the methods which are to be employed. This does not mean at all that there will not be further recruiting. Indeed there are at the moment plans for some 15,000 in the authorized C.A.S.F. and there will be further calls as men can be utilized. As these further calls are made from time to time we shall follow the principle of giving every portion of the country an opportunity to share in the enlistment.

The first principle of good organization is to have men serve in the task which is most important and for which the individual is best fitted. Due to the splendid and almost instant response to the recent call for recruits the need for materials assumes equal if not greater importance for the moment than the need for men. All I ask is that the patriotic urge for service be allowed to express itself in the way in which it will be most effective, notwithstanding the individual preference.

ACTIVE MILITIA

I have already referred to the role of the Non-Permanent Active Militia in connection with the formation of the C.A.S.F.

Now I wish to speak of the N.P.A.M. itself. Some N.P.A.M. Units of course had not been mobilized for active service, others had been. But whether so mobilized or not, all the N.P.A.M. Infantry Units are now authorized to recruit up to full war strength. This is not C.A.S.F. recruiting. It works in this way: There are 91 N.P.A.M. Infantry Units in Canada. Some of these have been mobilized and have become part of the C.A.S.F., and some of those mobilized units have gone overseas. We have said to those which have been mobilized, "You are authorized to recruit a second battalion. This will not be a C.A.S.F. battalion, but you can take men right up to war strength for training on a Militia basis, that is, in the evening or other spare time plus camp, and pay them Militia rates of pay." To the N.P.A.M. Infantry Units which had not been mobilized for the C.A.S.F., we have said, "You can take on more men up to war strength, on the same Militia basis for training and pay." There are also some Artillery Units in the N.P.A.M. which have received the same instructions.

The total war strength of the N.P.A.M. Infantry Units is approximately 88,000 officers and men, and according to the latest available returns this N.P.A.M. Force has a total strength of 47,373 actually enrolled. While there is plenty of room for more enlistments in the N.P.A.M. Units, there are cases where the lack of available qualified officers, especially for some of the technical units, has made it necessary to forego active recruiting until the staff of officers has been built up. These cases are having