

new system, there will be a Militia Council corresponding to what is in England called the Army Council. That council will be composed of the Minister of Militia, as chairman of the council, with four military men and two additional civilians.

The Militia Council, as I say, will be composed of seven members, as is the Army Council—four military, three civil. The Minister for the time being will be the chairman; the principal military officer will be known as the Chief of the General Staff. Then there will be the Adjutant General, the Quartermaster-General and the Master-General of Ordnance. The two additional civilians would be the Deputy Minister and, probably, the Chief Accountant of the department.

Under the system there will be no General Officer Commanding. There is no Commander in Chief in England to-day and there will be no General Officer Commanding here. There would be a first military officer known as the Chief of the General Staff, the most important military officer in the country as he is to-day the most important military officer in England, except some of the generals commanding in chief in some of the large districts.

Now, the first thing I will do will be to explain briefly the new reconstruction scheme in England. It is composed of: first, the Defence Committee; and secondly, the Army Council. In regard to that, and as an indication of the importance and duties of these committees, I will read from the 'Reconstruction Committee' report with which the hon. gentleman compares his scheme. The report says, at page 9, of section 15 of part 1:

Speaking broadly, the distribution of duties must be as follows:—

- A. Secretary of State.
- B. 1st Military Member.—Military policy in all its branches. War staff duties, intelligence, mobilization, plans of operations, training, military history, higher education, war regulations.
- C. 2nd Military Member.—Recruiting, pay, discipline, rewards, peace regulations.
- D. 3rd Military Member.—Supply, clothing, re-mounts, transport.
- E. 4th Military Member.—Armaments and fortifications.
- F. Civil Member.—The parliamentary Under-Secretary of State. Civil business other than finance.
- G. Civil Member.—The Financial Secretary. Finance, audit, accounting, estimates.

The naming of these different members and the reading of the importance and extent of their duties shows enough for the purposes of my argument. I read from part 1, page 14, part of section 5:

The Army Council is to administer and not to command the army. Executive command being vested in generals outside the War Office, who will be responsible for the training and efficiency of all troops within their districts, an independent Inspection Department must be provided for the information and the protection of the Council.

The next is the Inspection Department. The Inspector General has under him the following inspectors: Cavalry; Horse and

Mr. TISDALE.

Field Artillery; Garrison Artillery. Engineers; Mounted Infantry. Next comes the Decentralization Committee, and under this England is divided into five territorial divisions, which are subdivided into a great many more districts. Each of these divisions is commanded, not by a Commander in Chief, but by a General Officer Commanding in Chief. The next department is that of Military Finance. The next is that of the Chief of the General Staff, which is a department itself. The next department is the Department for the Promotion and Selection of Officers. The Inspector General is the president and the General Officers Commanding in Chief are members. Each of the above departments has a separate council and organization. In addition, there are the following three great departments: Adjutant General's Department; Quartermaster General's Department; and Department of Master General or Ordnance. Each has several branches under it, assisted by one or more councils or committees. What do these great councils have charge of? About 500,000 regular soldiers, largely on a war footing, some small portion in reserve, and an expenditure of \$175,000,000; and I am credibly informed that to-day there is a committee sitting in the old country under the Duke of Norfolk, to provide a scheme for their volunteers in addition. Now, what is our existing system? It is founded on the idea of two branches, one civil and the other military, each having restricted authority, with some joint or dual authority. They act separately in many things. Each in many cases has to approve of what the other does. In many cases they act independently of each other. The general is to have charge of the military branch and the minister is to have charge of the civil branch. He is to have the command, the discipline, the education, nomination, promotion and selection for appointment of officers; the preparation and maintenance of plans of defence, and the regulation and mobilization of the militia. He is to advise the Minister of Militia on all military questions. He is to have the control and supervision of the military branch. The minister, on the other hand, is the head of the civil branch. He has the financing and the initiation of all matters that lead to the expenditure of money.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Is my hon. friend stating the present condition of things in Canada as he understands it?

Mr. TISDALE. Yes.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. The minister, then, is the head of the civil branch only?

Mr. TISDALE. Only, except in this way. If you will look at the Act and the regulations, you will see that the discipline of the militia is in the charge of the General Officer Commanding and that the power of