

*War Appropriation—Army*

Mr. RALSTON: I am anxious to get these items through, if I can. Could I give the information on the estimates of my colleague the Minister of National Defence for Air?

Mr. HAZEN: Yes.

Item agreed to.

## B—Sundry Services

Departmental administration.....	\$ 1,526,405
Dependents' allowance board.....	657,700
Internment operations.....	8,430,895
Dependents supplementary grants fund .....	1,285,000
Inspection board of the United Kingdom and Canada.....	10,600,000

Total..... \$22,500,000

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Could we take these one at a time? After all, some of these are fairly important items.

Mr. RALSTON: Certainly.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): I have not a great many questions, but I think several hon. members have one or two to ask.

Departmental administration, \$1,526,405.

Mr. GREEN: This afternoon the minister promised to make a statement in regard to this plan for reclaiming men for the army.

Mr. RALSTON: I intended to do that while the director-general of medical services was here, but I forgot.

Mr. GREEN: And also the cost of food and supplies per man per year.

Mr. RALSTON: Could I give my hon. friend that information on the estimates of my colleague?

Mr. GREEN: The minister will answer both these question then?

Mr. RALSTON: Yes.

Mr. GREEN: There was one other question, having to do with the enlistment of aliens in the army. A return was tabled on March 8 which showed that under the provisions drawn up a few months ago a total of 751 aliens had been called, but apparently only three had been chosen; at any rate up to that time only three had managed to get into the army. Could the minister tell us the position to-day with regard to the taking of aliens into the army? Over a year ago we were told that they were all to be called up; yet very little action has been taken. What is the situation at the present time?

Mr. RALSTON: A set of rules has just been approved with regard to both the enlistment and the calling up of aliens. I would not undertake to give them from memory,

[Mr. Hazen.]

so that I think I had better answer that question at the same time as I give the other information.

Mr. GREEN: Could the minister tell us how many aliens actually have got as far as the army?

Mr. RALSTON: No; I cannot.

Mr. GREEN: Can the minister not get that information?

Mr. RALSTON: Certainly.

Mr. GREEN: The minister will give that at the same time?

Mr. RALSTON: Certainly.

Item agreed to.

Dependents' allowance board, \$657,700.

Item agreed to.

Internment operations, \$8,430,895.

Mr. GILLIS: I think the minister should make a statement for the purpose of clarifying what was said the other day in this house by the hon. member for Broadview, to the effect that Ontario universities were full of enemy aliens and that the Department of National Defence was supplying them with uniforms. During the Easter recess, due to considerable propaganda carried on in the press, at several meetings I attended I met quite hostile audiences on that very point. They wanted to know if it was the policy of the government indiscriminately to release enemy aliens in this country and give them the privilege of attending universities while our own boys were being called from the universities and relegated to the armed forces. Having had some little experience in Ontario last summer, I had some knowledge of the situation. My conception of the matter is that instead of being called enemy aliens, these boys should be classified as refugees from Hitler and the totalitarian countries. However, coming from me that is not official, and I think under this item the minister should make some statement as to the status of these men, why they were interned and what are the regulations with respect to their release. I think this has been a subject of controversy right across the country, and the statement made by the hon. member for Broadview a few days ago added fuel to the fire. Therefore I think a clarifying statement by the minister would be in order.

Mr. RALSTON: This matter was the subject of a return brought down in response to a question asked by the hon. member for Carleton. The persons to whom the hon.