

departments of the British Government have not fulfilled that promise. I repeat that if any instance of that kind can be brought to my attention, I shall be prompt to make the British Government acquainted with it, and to ask them the reason why a distinct engagement entered into with them last summer has not been carried out.

My hon. friend asks whether or not our men at the front are supplied with uniforms and clothing produced by Canadian manufacturers. Our men go overseas supplied with uniforms and clothing ordered by the Canadian Government in Canada. I do not know whether my hon. friend had in mind what I had in mind when I was in the Old Country and brought the matter to the attention of the British Government. I said: "When our men get to the front, their uniforms and clothing have to be

discarded from time to time and new issues are made by you; you tell me that you are able to supply in the British Islands all requirements for uniforms and clothing; I suggest to you that, so far as you issue uniforms and clothing to Canadians, under the conditions mentioned, you ought to consider the manufacturers in Canada, and I insist that you shall consider the Canadian manufacturers in this country." They gave me a pretty fair answer with regard to that, and I will tell my hon. friend what it is. I have it right here under my hand. They said to me: "Here is a statement of issues to Canadian troops already made and of estimated issues for the next twelve months, and here also is a statement of the purchases of these same articles in Canada from the first day of August, 1914, to September, 1915." The memorandum is as follows:

Issues to Canadian Troops.

| Articles. | Issues already made. | Estimated Issues for next 12 months. | Total Issues. | Purchases in Canada, August, 1914, to Sept., 1915. |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Great coats | 7,700 | 24,000 | 31,700 | 103,145 |
| Jackets | 27,000 | 120,000 | 147,000 | 504,738 |
| Trousers | 18,500 | 80,000 | 98,500 | 502,000 |
| Flannel shirts | 45,000 | 200,000 | 245,000 | 1,015,385 |
| Cardigans | 200 | 50,000 | 50,200 | 665,488 |
| Vests | 19,000 | 80,000 | 99,000 | 207,450 |
| Drawers | 40,000 | 160,000 | 200,000 | 3,028,800 |
| Socks (pairs) | 71,000 | 300,000 | 371,500 | 5,155,002 |
| Rubber boots | 1,362 | 10,400 | 11,762 | 110,000 |
| Shoe packs | 275 | Nil. | 275 | 9,700 |

There were two items as to which purchases have not been made in Canada, and these I will read:

| Articles. | Issues already made. | Estimated Issues for next 12 months. | Total Issues. | Purchases in Canada, August, 1914, to Sept., 1915. |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Pantaloons | 13,500 | 60,000 | 73,500 | Nil. |
| Ankle boots | 31,130 | 120,000 | 151,130 | Nil. |

If hon. gentlemen take these totals, they will see that the purchases in Canada of articles of the character set forth have been infinitely greater than those supplied to the Canadian soldiers. So, my representations to the War Office met, as I consider, with a very satisfactory answer. On the whole, purchases made by the British Government in this country are a good deal larger than hon. gentlemen imagine. I have documents here on this subject. They are marked "confidential," but I shall be very happy

[Sir Robert Borden.]

indeed to show them to any hon. gentleman on the other side. I have a summary of a statement of purchases, and I might just run over the list, without indicating the amounts, to show the wide range of articles purchased by the British Government: Sets of saddlery, artillery harness, blankets, saddle blankets, wire cable—thousands of miles of this has been ordered—copper rod—many tons—double sets of artillery harness, army blankets, high explosive shells, cardigans, pantaloons,