

said to be \$6,000 per annum in full of all pay and allowances; but in clause 43 the pay of the adjutant general and the quartermaster general is said to be \$3,200 per annum, but without the statement that it is in full of all pay and allowances. I understand at the present that these gentlemen are in receipt of \$2,800 per year.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. \$3,200 at present.

Mr. A. T. THOMPSON. May I ask the minister if they receive any allowances at present besides that?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Yes, that is a portion of the present pay they receive. The statute I think provides for \$2,600.

An hon. MEMBER. \$2,800.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Perhaps it is, and the difference between that and \$3,200 is allowances, at present.

Mr. A. T. THOMPSON. Does that put these gentlemen in any better position, as far as pay goes, than they were before?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Probably it would.

Mr. A. T. THOMPSON. It is to be hoped it does, because their positions are important, and they have been rather underpaid I think in times past.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. It may be pointed out that this is just the same pay as similar officers in other departments receive. But the minister knows that these officers must have very expensive uniforms, they must support the dignity of their position. The minister knows that these officers are called upon to perform certain functions whenever visiting officers come to the city, and are called upon to do more or less informal entertaining otherwise. The minister knows that as well as any one living. He knows the incidental expenses of these officers are much greater than they are in any other branch of the service for corresponding positions. I would be pleased, and I am sure the country would be much pleased, if the minister could see his way clear to make the salary what it is stated here, with certain allowances.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. The pay is fixed at \$3,200, and it is open to the Governor in Council, by regulation, to add to this in the way of allowances. The next section, 44, is the same as section 40 of the present law. Section 45 is the same as section 41 of the present law as amended in 1900.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. In connection with section 45 of the proposed law the minister provides here:—

In and for each of the military districts there shall be appointed by the Governor in Council an officer, of rank not lower than that of lieutenant-colonel, who shall, subject to the regulations, command the militia in his district.

I presume these are intended to be the district officers commanding.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. Yes.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. The minister used the term 'district officer commanding' in section 36 of the present act. But this is the first notification he has given that there is such an official in the district. It is not defined in any way.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. It would be defined in the regulation, but I will take note of that.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. This is an important clause. As the minister knows, I have previously advocated that these district officers commanding should be tied up, so to speak, office men, executive men, who would be responsible for routine, for the correspondence, for forwarding requisitions, for inspection, for arms and accoutrements; in other words, to see that the various corps throughout the various districts were preserved in a state of efficiency so far as the office work might go, so far as making up shortages and keeping everything in good form and so on; in other words, that these should be office men purely and simply. In addition to that I would suggest for the minister's consideration that there should be besides an officer who will take command of the troops when they go to drill. Let one officer be responsible for the maintenance of the efficiency of the equipments and the routine of the office work, and let the other officer be held responsible for the efficiency of the various corps in drill. The minister knows well that a man in an office gets to be a good office man, and a man in the saddle gets to be a good field man. I am satisfied that the minister will consider this proposition as of great advantage.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. I agree entirely with what my hon. friend says, and I hope to overcome that difficulty and to render these men less office men, as he calls them, than they are now, by increasing the district staff so that they will be able to perform the real functions they were intended to perform, the functions of command. Besides that I may say that the general, Lord Dundonald, has a scheme which I think has been promulgated, at any rate it has been mentioned, by which he proposes to group one, or two, or three districts together for the purpose of higher command, so that there will be over that group of districts an officer of the type which my hon. friend describes.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. But the minister fails to catch the point of the debate. These men are now permanent corps men. Now there are many men who are occupying positions in the various corps of the active militia throughout the country, and outside the permanent corps, there are any number of them, who if given a chance, would be as