

work it out. I am only saying that there seems to be a tremendous portion of our people who are not keeping in step or in line with others who are doing a job. Perhaps I had better not go on reading the figures contained in this article, since it is not very palatable to the minister.

Mr. MITCHELL: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there is nothing my hon. friend could say that would be unpalatable to me. I tried to be fair with the committee yesterday; I gave what I thought was a clear exposition of the man-power situation as far as the armed forces are concerned, from the best available sources, which are the official government sources. I know it is the easiest thing to do what my hon. friend is attempting to do at the present time, but unless he can prove me wrong I think he should take my word for it and should accept the figures presented by me as Minister of Labour last evening.

Mr. HANSELL: I am not concerned with whether or not what I say is palatable to the minister; I simply said that the figures in the *Journal* evidently were not to his liking, because he had to explain them last night. In any event they were his own figures. However, let that go by the board; I do not mind. I am going to state a grievance which I think is quite legitimate. I believe I am right in saying that a large proportion of the people of Canada, because they have not been given the proper direction, have been out of line and out of step with the rest of the people. I hold in my hand the June issue of "Canada at War," an informative little pamphlet issued by the wartime information board, which I like to read. In it I find something which of course is well known, that in April the minister was given power to order employers in specified industries to discontinue the employment of persons within certain age classes designated for military training, and so on.

Mr. MARTIN: What page and what month?

Mr. HANSELL: At page 47 of the June issue. This is perfectly correct; I am not criticizing it at all. Men in these classes may not be employed except under special permit, and then a list of ten specified classifications is given; there is a second order which covers six more classifications. I do not know what is involved in these special permits or how they are obtained, but I notice that classification No. 8 includes waiter, taxi driver, elevator operator, hotel bell-boy and domestic servant. I am going to suggest that this regulation evidently has not been fully complied with, for in some of the best hotels in Canada they

still have male waiters. That might be all right; I do not know, but I suggest to the minister that it does not tend to the creation of the best possible morale or to a total war effort to see husky men waiting on tables at a supper dance, for instance. I was in the Royal York hotel the other day—perhaps I should not have mentioned the hotel, but I imagine it does not matter—and saw men wheeling carts on to the elevators, wheeling them off again and through the corridors because people wanted to have breakfast in bed.

Mr. GRANT: Perhaps they had flat feet.

Mr. HANSELL: Surely, while that sort of thing is permitted, it cannot be said that we have a total, all-out war effort. Surely these men could be better engaged in that war effort. I wish the minister would give some explanation with regard to this matter.

Referring again to these figures, I am not going to mention half a million men, but I wish to say that farther on in this little booklet it states that those affected by the new orders must register at the nearest employment and selective service office. It continues:

This ensures that those men who have been called for national service and are not acceptable to the army—

It may be said that the people I have mentioned were not acceptable to the army.

—will be engaged in essential work, such as farming, lumbering, coal mining, fishing and munitions work.

Surely there is some place where these men can fit into the picture. I am sorry if I seem to have singled out these people, but I am citing these cases because I have seen them; there may be other hon. members who can give outstanding examples in other lines of work. I have nothing against the restaurant business or against waiters who are engaged at high-class hotels. The same condition exists in other industries, but I suggest that these instances are noticed by people who have sons or perhaps husbands in the front line of battle. Surely, if we are going to carry on a total war, every man should be put at some specific task within the structure of our war effort. I am not complaining about these regulations; I am complaining in regard to the effectiveness of their operation. It may be a good thing to have regulations such as are outlined in this little booklet. The regulations are good; from time to time certain industries which are non-essential should be set out; but setting them out on paper does not put the thing into practical operation, so that I am bringing up this matter now, and I think the minister should give some explanation in connection with it.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.