

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): I shall not press the minister to furnish the information now, but I should like to have his assurance that we shall get the information. I should like to know how many uniformed officers of this force have been stationed in Nova Scotia within the last six months or since the declaration of war?

Mr. CARDIN: Very good.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): Are the 1,500 additional officers in addition to those recruited for overseas service? At the Regina barracks they have a company of young men who have been taken on the force and are training for overseas duty, but they will be members of the force when they return. Are they included in that additional 1,500?

Mr. CARDIN: I am told they are on leave only.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): That is hardly an answer. I have in mind specifically young men who have joined the force with the intention of going overseas, who have been called to Regina for training in a specific company of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for service overseas, and who will be members of the force when they return, and I was asking if they are part of the 1,500 additional officers or separate from that number.

Mr. CARDIN: They are not part of the 1,500 additional officers.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): They are over and above that number?

Mr. CARDIN: Yes.

Mr. GREEN: How many mounted police are stationed in British Columbia?

Mr. CARDIN: I have not the exact figures but I am told that the number is about 150.

Mr. GREEN: The attorney general said there were forty.

Mr. CARDIN: The information I have at the moment is that the number is about 150.

Section agreed to.

Sections 3 and 4 agreed to.

On section 5—Fines, forfeitures, gifts, et cetera, paid to the minister.

Mr. MacNICOL. As I understand this section, it means that any gift or present made to an officer by some individual in appreciation of some service rendered must be turned in to the minister.

Mr. CARDIN: Yes; that is the point. There were some doubts as to gifts made to the mounted police. This section authorizes

the minister to collect such gifts and bequests and to transfer them to the fund for the benefit of the mounted police.

Section agreed to.

On section 6—Compensation for injury.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister explain this section?

Mr. CARDIN: What will be done under this new section 21A has been done hertofore by order in council, but the commissioner of the mounted police thought it would be better to have statutory authority than authority to act by order in council.

Section agreed to.

On section 7—Expense payable out of consolidated revenue fund.

Mr. GREEN: Is there power under the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act to pay subsidies to a provincial police force? I bring up this matter in order to find out whether there is power to make financial arrangements with the provinces to get their police force to help in fifth column activity work.

Mr. CARDIN: I am told there is no such power.

Mr. GREEN: Does the minister not think it would be wise under the circumstances to have such power included in the act?

Mr. CARDIN: It might be.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister take that into consideration?

Mr. CARDIN: Yes; I will bring it to the attention of the commissioner and the officers of the department.

Section agreed to.

On section 8—Pension gratuity, et cetera, to be granted with the approval of the governor in council.

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): What provision is made for retiring allowance for members of the force by way of pension?

Mr. CARDIN: We shall come to that on page 7 of the bill.

Section agreed to.

Sections 9 and 10 agreed to.

On section 11—Desertion, absence without leave, refusal to do duty.

Mr. GREEN: What is the idea of changing the section?