

attentive man in charge is like having a good looking girl at a switchboard as the first person a person sees when he goes into an office. My hon. friend has spoken of the gruff manner of recruiting sergeants, and I know that there are exceptions in which that does take place.

Mr. WHITE: Where the recruit has to come back to enlist the next day, does the minister not think some provision should be made for his messing and staying overnight? In the city of Ottawa many boys are told to come back the next day. Where are they going to get their supper?

Mr. RALSTON: I find that in the ordinary case they do get their supper and get looked after, but I must say that it is not official. I would think as a general principle—perhaps I am going too far without thinking it over—that where it is due not to the fault of the man but to pressure of work that he cannot be taken care of the same day, some provision should be made for looking after him. I must say that, to be frank.

Mr. NEILL: Would the minister also suggest to his recruiting officers that they should be very careful not to make statements to the men that are not absolutely true? I have at least six cases—too many to be accidental—where the men have assured me that the recruiting officer told them they were subject to certain conditions, and afterwards they found out that it was not so. I was told afterwards that the recruiting officer had no business to make such a statement. I think they should be warned to be careful in what they say and not state the conditions differently from what will ultimately obtain.

Mr. RALSTON: That very point has been emphasized in an order that has been sent out. Somebody may say: "Oh, yes, but the orders are not looked at." Let me say that it was emphasized at the last meeting of the district recruiting officers which was held only a short time ago. It is a fundamental matter, and my hon. friend is perfectly right. There is danger, particularly with an inexperienced recruiting officer anxious to get recruits, that he will become a salesman instead of an adviser. It seems to me that if a man cannot go to a recruiting officer, ask for advice and rely on the information he is given, the recruiting officer has failed in his job. I certainly will see that that point is kept before the recruiting officers. I think the officers we have now pretty well understand it and are living up to it.

Mr. LOCKHART: Would the minister make sure that the recruiting officers differentiate,

in speaking to the recruits, between the dependent's allowance for a mother and the dependent's allowance for a wife? The recruiting officers fail to make that distinction, and it causes confusion and disappointment.

Mr. NEILL: Hear, hear. That is what I was referring to.

Mr. CHURCH: I do not know anything that has caused so much confusion among the students attending high schools, collegiate institutes and technical schools in Toronto as the recent rules and regulations made in respect of young people, sixteen, seventeen and eighteen years of age entering restricted occupations in industry and war plants and joining the army. As you know, Mr. Chairman, some of the larger secondary schools of Toronto and of the county of York have as many as fifteen hundred to two thousand day students, while the night classes of the Toronto technical school and the northern vocational school have some 8,000 students. Those of that age are the type of student who want to enlist as soon as they can. They want to help. I was sorry that the minister, owing to hard work, has been unable to come to Toronto and see the work they are doing in these secondary schools, but I know he cannot be everywhere at the same time. In the past month I have seen magnificent parades of the cadet corps of some of the secondary schools in the Toronto district including some of the county of York. The cadet movement has always been the boon of the militia units. I have never seen anything like the parade they put on about half-past eleven or a quarter to twelve in the morning in some schools, marching around the streets near their schools to help to educate the people to a total war effort.

There is a great deal of confusion over the recent regulation as to those of sixteen, seventeen and eighteen in regard to restricted trades and getting into industry. I was talking to the principals of three collegiate institutes about the new orders in council this last weekend and have been receiving letters from citizens on the subject. I know that some of the war industries in the Toronto district are refusing to take on young people of these ages from the high schools because of the regulation with respect to persons from seventeen to forty-five years of age. It handicaps these industries in taking young people on, although they want to because they are good workers in holidays. We have a large number of large and small war industries in the Toronto district and many of the students of these ages at our high schools and collegiates would like to work in them in the summer as in the past so that they can go to university. These young