

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Let me make it clear that I am not criticizing. I simply want some information. The people of France were told by their Government that the country was ready to defend itself against Germany. The fact was, as we now know, that France was not ready at all. Holland was advised by outsiders that it should join with Great Britain and France in a policy of offence and defence, but the Government of the country thought it was safer to remain neutral. Mr. Chamberlain said that Hitler missed the bus in going to Norway. Missed the bus! He was the driver of the bus! I am not questioning the sincerity of my honourable friend's beliefs or of the Government's beliefs, but there is a question in my mind as to whether the Government may not be wrong in the policy it is pursuing. In my humble opinion, which I admit is not worth much, the war ultimately will be won, not on the sea nor in the air, but as all wars since the beginning of Christendom have been won, on the land, by men behind guns. It is they who have always won wars and who, I think, always will win them. We are told that Britain does not need men. Then why has she called up one million men this month?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: They are at home.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: All right, but they must be needed in the army there. Ultimately, in a year or two years, whenever it may be, we shall have to go to Europe and defeat the Germans by talking to them in the only language they understand.

Hon. Mr. KING: The Minister said that in his speech the other night.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I know, but that is not what has been said in this House to-day. I know the honourable gentleman from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock) was speaking with good intentions, but I disagree with his view that men are not needed. We ought to let the people know that men are needed.

Hon. Mr. KING: The Minister said so.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: The impression I have gathered from official statements is that Britain has told us she does not require more men from us. I must say quite candidly that recruiting in Canada at present indicates the public do not realize the fact that we do need men. The calling up of 300,000 men for one month's training will not have very far-reaching results. Six or nine months must be the minimum of time in which a man could acquire any familiarity with mechanized methods of modern warfare.

I repeat that I am not criticizing the Government. My point is that I want the Government to tell Parliament, of which this House is a part, what the regulations are. I want to know, for instance, what are the age groups to be called up, what are to be the grounds for exemption, and how the tribunals are to be constituted.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: And who will select them.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Exactly—who will select them. In short, what is the set-up? I want to be able to say to the young men of Manitoba that the set-up is so-and-so; that, let us say, those from 21 to 24 will be called first, that farmers are exempt or not, as the case may be, and that lawyers are exempt or not. I believe I am entitled to that information. If the Government says, "Parliament is not entitled to that information," I shall be satisfied with that answer.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I shall not.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I shall not be satisfied permanently, and I do not think the country will be. You will not get the best effort out of Canada in that way. You can get Canadians to do their best only by telling them the facts. Even if the facts were unfavourable, I should make them known. I think Canadians can stand up to the truth. If the fact is that ultimately we shall have to raise half a million men or more to go to Europe and fight, the Government should state that to the people. There would be no fainting. There is more fear in Canada over what people do not know than there would be if they knew everything.

On the 12th of July I first asked for details of the regulations under the Mobilization Act, and every few days since then I have pressed for an answer. If the honourable leader (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) will say that no answer can be given, I shall be through. But I submit the question should be answered, and I do ask him now to see that the rules and regulations are presented to us, if possible, before prorogation, which it now appears will take place to-morrow. If he says they will not be ready then, I shall be satisfied—for I am not pressing as hard as my right honourable leader (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) is—to be told that a copy of them will be sent out to every senator next Monday or Tuesday.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Then you would not be able to say anything about them.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I am not so concerned about that. I think it is detrimental to our greatest possible war effort that we, members