

classification I used, but rather one would refer to emotional instability and mental deficiency. There are two factors. There are not only the simple neurotic types represented by the term "emotional instability," but also those who are mentally deficient.

Mr. ADAMSON: And there are morons, as well.

Mr. RALSTON: The number of discharges, according to part 2, unit orders—and I have to put it in that way, because there is some difference between part 2, unit orders and the number of discharges actually recorded here in the records office—stands at 74,410, to April 30, 1943. Those medically unfit, including the mentally deficient and emotionally unstable—and they are classified together—number 54,044. That does not include personnel under the National Resources Mobilization Act. In the beginning the records office in charge of National Resources Mobilization Act personnel had a tremendous load placed upon them. They did not have time to make up the Hollerith cards. However, they have been catching up on the Hollerith system, and I believe within three or four weeks we shall have the full figures for personnel under the National Resources Mobilization Act. I refer to discharges particularly. They will be in addition to the number I have given.

Mr. ROSS (Souris): I should like to find out whether the great percentage of these people broke down in training, or whether the examination upon attestation had been insufficient. It seems to me that in a large percentage of cases some medical defect may have been missed, upon enlistment.

Mr. RALSTON: I believe I have given my hon. friend all the information I have. Of course I have not individual case histories.

Mr. ADAMSON: I disagree with the hon. member for Renfrew South. In my opinion the Canadian people should be shocked, and the more shocking we can do in respect of our mental attitude toward mental health in Canada, the sooner we are likely to improve it. According to the "Canada Year Book", numbers in our mental institutions are doubling every thirty years. That is a very serious condition, and the sooner the Dominion of Canada is shocked into doing something about the mental health of our people, the better it will be. I hope the figures we hope to get from the army will show the seriousness of the situation. That is why I raised the matter.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Under this item would the minister give an outline of the educational work being done among the soldiers? I am thinking of educational work apart from regular army training.

While I am on my feet I should like to compliment the minister and his department upon the magnificent job of educational work they are doing in the educational centre at North Bay. I have watched the progress of the work there, and I have been delighted to find the excellent job being done in that camp.

Mr. RALSTON: The hon. member was most generous in the letter he wrote me the other day in which he referred to his visit to North Bay. I appreciate what he has said.

The army has two educational centres, one at North Bay and the other at Joliette. These two centres handle men who are not mentally deficient or emotionally instable, but who have not had a fair chance in civil life and who, as a result, are simply illiterate. They are promising material, if given an opportunity to learn. We send them to these points. In this work we have been extremely fortunate in obtaining not only men of excellent experience as educationists, but men who have a sympathetic understanding of the situation, and who realize that they are salvaging an important asset not only for the army but for Canada. The men at these training centres, both Joliette and North Bay, get their basic training there instead of at an ordinary training centre, and at the same time they are given this educational training. I do not think that educational training is limited in the same way; that is to say, a man is not told that he must train for two months and that is all he gets. What we try to do is to train them sufficiently that they can be reasonably efficient soldiers; and of course it is a satisfaction to them, as it is to the teachers, to have them become more proficient in training which will help them in connection with their soldiering and also will enable them to write to the folks back home and let them know that some of the opportunities which hitherto they have been denied have finally come to them. It has been a great satisfaction. The number is not large, of course; North Bay, I think, would take about 750, and Joliette nearly the same number, but there is no doubt it is a worth-while investment and a worth-while effort, and I am sure it will yield good results to the army and to the country as well.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: What standard is used to decide whether or not a man is illiterate?