

ber of the permanent corps as instructors. We are sifting out the best engineers we can find in this way to form an engineering corps. In addition to that, the Canadian General Electric Company of Toronto, under the direction of Mr. Nicholls, has offered twenty-five men, not for service abroad, but for service in Canada. Sir John Jackson has offered his entire engineering staff to the service of the Government. In fact, offers of service are coming in splendidly from every part of the country.

Mr. MACDONALD: Under subsection 'c,' under which this money vote is to be utilized by the Government for 'promoting the continuance of trade, industry and business communications, whether by means of insurance or indemnity against war risk or otherwise,' I would like to call the attention of the Minister of Railways, if he were here, to a situation which exists in connection with the coal trade at Halifax. Every hon. gentleman was pleased to hear of the offer made by the province of Nova Scotia to furnish 100,000 tons of coal for the use of the British Government. As the war goes on, the port of Halifax will naturally be one to which vessels flying the British flag will resort for coaling purposes to a greater degree than perhaps ever before. At the present time the Intercolonial railway has no facilities whatever at the port of Halifax for delivering at the wharfs, or in any way in which it can be transported to vessels, naval or otherwise, the coal which would come over the Intercolonial railway. In the past, the bunker coal trade of the port has been handled by the vessels which communicate with the coal mines of Cape Breton. It is desirable and absolutely necessary that the Intercolonial railway should be put in a position to handle coal from the mainland collieries, and I understand that the attention of some of the members of the Government has been called to the situation. I am speaking on behalf of the people of my own constituency and that of Cumberland, who would like to be put in a position to deliver at the port of Halifax coal from their mines. At the present time, on account of lack of facilities on the Intercolonial, they cannot do so. I am informed that the defect could be obviated, at no very great expense, by the building of a siding into the dockyard, and also that the matter was submitted to the Imperial authorities some years ago with a plan providing for such a siding. It may seem a small matter, but we are looking ahead to the welfare of our province, and when we

consider the position which Halifax will occupy as a shipping port, especially during the winter months, we should take steps to have an ample supply of coal for all purposes at that port. I notice that the Minister of Railways is not in his place; but I would ask the Prime Minister to call his attention to this matter, because it is a suggestion which I am offering solely in the best interests of the country in the present situation.

What has been settled in regard to the pay of the troops who have volunteered for service abroad? A question arose in the South African war as to the difference in pay.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I understand that it is to be the same as if the men were on active service in Canada.

I appreciate the importance of the observations made by my hon. friend. Personally I am not in a position to speak with accuracy as to the facilities which exist at Halifax at the present time. It is possible that the Minister of Railways may already have had this under consideration, as I know he had the general manager of the Intercolonial here a few days ago to confer with him about some matters of importance. I have no doubt that that matter was taken up if it had been previously brought to his attention. I shall be very glad to direct his attention to my hon. friend's observations.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I would like to know why it is that, while the country furnishes uniforms for the men, the officers all have to buy their own uniforms.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES: We are giving them a grant of \$140.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I suppose that is because they are going to the front; but, speaking ordinarily, why is it that young men, who are willing when the necessity arises to go to the front and sacrifice their lives if need be for their country, should be obliged to pay for their uniforms? I know of quite a number of cases of young men who have been offered lieutenantcies or captaincies, but who, by reason of the fact that they have mothers or sisters to support, have felt unable to go to the expense of \$100 or so to provide the necessary uniform. I think that ought to be taken into consideration.

Mr. SAM HUGHES: I am obliged to leave in a moment, and I trust the hon. gentleman will not think I am interrupting if I ask leave to say a word now. The