

SADDLES.—11,000 purchased.

Return for the number of saddles purchased was asked for on March 8th and was only brought down on March 26th and showed that 11,000 saddles were ordered at \$45.00 each. (See Sessional pps. 207).

MOTOR CYCLES.—57 purchased.

A return was asked for on March 8th and brought down only on April 1st. 57 were ordered ranging from \$300 to \$315.00 (See Sessional pps. 227).

CANVAS SHOES.—95,000 pairs purchased.

At \$2.00 a pair costing the Country \$190,000.00. (See memorandum European War 1914-1915).

The Country will require some explanations as to what use was made of these.

OLIVER EQUIPMENTS.—54,500 purchased.

Price paid per set \$6.75 an expenditure of \$373,475.00. **All discarded.** On April 5th, 1915, General Hughes in answer to a question asked by Mr. E. M. Macdonald, M.P. for Pictou, N.S., in regard to Oliver Equipment supplied the first Contingent stated:

"It is reported that the Oliver equipment was withdrawn, and the division completed with Webb equipment from the British ordnance." (See Unrevised Hansard, April 5th, 1915, page 2070).

OVERSHOES.—120,000 purchased.

Return showed that 120,000 overshoes were purchased at prices ranging from \$1.70 to \$1.96 per pair. (See Questions and Answers, Hansard, Feb'y 22, 1915.)

RAZORS.—62,363 purchased.

Up to February 22nd, 1915, 62,363 razors were purchased at from \$4.85 to \$9.00 per dozen. (See Questions and Answers, Hansard, Feb'y 22, 1915.)

Returns were asked for showing the number of blankets, coats and great coats, socks, towels, etc., which have been purchased by the Militia Department for the War. The Government doubtless had this information at their fingers' ends but the Session closed and nothing was brought down.

With this statement it can be readily seen how easy it was for the Government to delay investigation in these war contracts, particularly when it is noted that it took the Boot Committee 26 days to investigate one item and the Public Accounts Committee investigated 9 items in 18 days.