

no power at the present time to take on any special constables in case an emergency might develop. I do not say that it is likely to develop at the present moment, but it might, and in that case it would be very useful if we were able to swear in a few special constables for the purpose of maintaining law and order.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I think we all recognize the danger of company police. I have seen company police in many industrial sections of the United States. I recall very well that when the former administration was in office the then Minister of the Interior wrote a document saying that he held the company in the particular area concerned responsible for the administration of law and order. It is a dangerous provision.

Mr. GUTHRIE: This is to take it away from the company and put it in the hands of the police.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: But under this section the police might nominate some company official and give him authority which would be arbitrarily used.

Mr. GUTHRIE: That is a very remote contingency, I think.

Mr. HEENAN: I would ask this question for information. Suppose the commissioner wishes to increase the police force at some remote point by appointing special constables without pay, and he cannot get anyone to join the force; has he the right to compel them to be sworn in as special constables?

Mr. GUTHRIE: None whatever.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: One other point. The minister speaks of this provision being necessary for remote districts. May I ask him very definitely what the object is in having in Regina a group of men known as the Riot Squad, who were signed up for duty lasting one year, and whose services may be dispensed with on summary notice? I should like to quote a few paragraphs from an article which appeared in the Regina Daily Star of January 28, 1932, entitled, "Special Riot 'Squad' Training in Regina for 'Just in Case'." The article says:

R.C.M.P. unit formed as aftermath of disturbances.

Something new in Royal Canadian Mounted Police work and an outcome of disturbances throughout the country last fall, a "riot squad," composed of men enlisted for a special period of training lasting one year is in the making at Regina headquarters.

One of the principal features of his special course of training is the attention given to [Mr. Guthrie.]

drill with rifles and firearms. Particular stress is laid on bayonet drill, the members of the squad receiving two periods of such drill daily.

When asked the reason for the creation of this squad, Assistant Commissioner, J. W. Spalding stated that it was "just in case . . .," and admitted it was formed as the outcome of the riots which flared at different points in Canada attributed to communists.

Bayonet drill, the assistant commissioner further stated, was now, and had been since August, a part of the regular drill of all recruits. There have been more than 250 recruits taken on "the force" since August. Of these, there are some 100 now in training at the barracks. Regina is still the training headquarters for all Canada though something in the nature of a sub-training depot has been opened at Vancouver recently.

A group of 20 picked men, more advanced recruits, is now undergoing special training before being sent to Lethbridge where they will be stationed or sent out on detachments as replacements. Every one of these must be particularly efficient in bayonet drill.

The Star learned unofficially that a number of the men in the Lethbridge bound unit are also members of the "riot squad."

The usual terms of service in the mounted is from three to five years. Those men who have signed up for the "riot squad" however, are only signed up for duty lasting one year, and their services may be dispensed with on summary notice.

I should like to ask the minister to explain the existence of this peculiar class of men whose enlistment is for only one year. What contingencies are contemplated which would make this kind of control necessary?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think my hon. friend takes too seriously what he reads in the newspapers. The commissioner informs me there is no such thing as a riot squad.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I have been trying for some weeks to obtain information in regard to this matter, and so far have failed; hence my bringing it up.

Mr. GUTHRIE: If my hon. friend had asked me any day I could have told him.

Section agreed to.

Sections 3 to 11 inclusive agreed to.

On section 12—Time on active service in great war included for pension purposes. Time in civil service and customs-excise preventive service.

Mr. MacLEAN: I should like to know if provision will be made for those men in the preventive service who have been let out. They have paid money into the superannuation fund; will it be returned to them?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I understand an arrangement is being made, but that is really a