

He will, therefore, first be examined. If he is rejected as medically unfit, then he returns home, and this fact will be noted in the record. If he is medically fit, he will proceed to the point where he is to be trained.

These men will be furnished with transportation to the doctor who is going to make the examination and to the military training point.

All medical examinations will be subject to review by the medical branch of the Department of National Defence.

Severe penalties will be provided for the failure of any person called up to submit to the medical examination and to take his period of training, if medically fit.

Severe penalties will be provided for the medical man who fails to make a proper examination or fails to report the true facts of the state of health of the individual.

All employers of labour will be required, under penalty, to put the employee back in his job at the conclusion of his period of training, or into a job the equivalent of the one he had.

A representative of the Department of National Defence may attend at sittings of the board and make such representations thereto, with respect to any matter being considered, as he may see fit, but such representative is not a member of the board.

The whole scheme, in broad terms, means this:

(a) As a result of the national registration, we know the numbers of single men between the ages of 21 and 45 throughout Canada, and we know the number in each age class.

(b) The military authorities decide the number of men they propose to train within the next year.

(c) Every medically fit male Canadian, subject to above exceptions, between the said ages, up to the number the Department of National Defence can train, will be called up during the year for a period of thirty days' training.

(d) This will apply to every person, regardless of his occupation or any other consideration, save the small excepted list that I have enumerated.

(e) There will likely be eight calls within a year, and the age classes will be called up in consecutive order, and all must be trained within the year.

All arrangements are made by the Department of National War Services, and the only connection with the Department of National Defence is the furnishing by that department to the Department of National War Services of the total number of men they can train and the number to be called up in each group.

The Department of National War Services will deliver the men to the Department of National Defence for training purposes and then our duties in this regard are completed.

There is considerable anxiety as to what effect this registration and proposed training of men will have upon production of primary products and industry in Canada.

This forms the very basis of the regulations upon which Mr. Cassels, Brigadier Orde and Mr. Boisvert are working.

It is impossible to say how many men will be called in the age groups of 21, 22, 23, or 24 years. It will depend upon the returns giving the total in each of these classes. The single men only will be called in turn, first

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at 21, 22 and 23 years of age, and so forth, until the figure is reached. At the present time the figure calls for 300,000 men.

I think it will be seen that the work will be carried on in a very satisfactory way. The boards to be appointed will be composed of a judge of the local district, assisted by two prominent men in whom all members of the community have full confidence. I think when those boards are constituted they will have also the full confidence and endorsement of my right honourable friend.

If the regulations based upon the statement I have read are not completed in time to lay before both Houses of Parliament, Mr. Cassels and Brigadier Orde, and probably Mr. Boisvert, their assistant, will be only too happy to appear before one of our committees tomorrow and state how far they have proceeded with their drafting of the regulations, and the basis upon which they are working.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable members, one hardly knows where to begin in commenting on this information. Maybe I should not hope the House will give me credit for knowing a little about this problem of getting men for an army.

An Hon. SENATOR: "No more men required."

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: We are not getting any this way. When we faced this problem in the last war I was given the task of trying to frame a plan, with the examples before me of what had been worked out in England and of our own Militia Act. Working in conjunction with General Mewburn, I did this work, giving about two or three weeks to it, and prepared the entire Bill so far as the matter of drafting was concerned, and watched throughout the drafting as it proceeded, though I was not Minister of the department. Since that time I have had no contact with military matters at all.

The reason I am bewildered is this. The Minister started by assuring the senator to my right (Hon. Mr. Calder) that each of these tribunals—twelve in all throughout the Dominion—headed by a judge, would not have anything to do with the individual; that is to say, the individual could not appear personally, nor could anybody appear for him to make representations as to whether he was entitled to exemption or postponement, or whatever you may call it. That was fairly carried out in what was read, except that students may be excused until they get through their school term, and so forth. How they are going to adopt one course as to students, another as to farmers' sons, another as to some other class, I do not know.