

of saying these things. The commissioner has charge of a great force. In this country the redcoats still represent law and order and enjoy the respect of everybody. When people from the United States come to visit us the first people they look for are the redcoats. If anyone comes and needs assistance he can confidently rely on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I do not know how well they are paid, but I am sure that all of us hope their pay corresponds to their work. They are members of a great service with a wonderful tradition. The other evening, when the Minister of Veterans Affairs was telling us something of the history of our country, this is one force he forgot to tell us about. Their record is one of the greatest in Canadian history; but for them we never would have had the Canada which is ours to-day, with its high standards of law and order. Whenever new mining and other settlements were set up in this country the redcoats were to be found there. In this connection may I point out that Commissioner Wood is a graduate of the Royal Military College of Canada, a fact which indicates the sort of training given by that great institution.

Mr. GRAYDON: So is the hon. member for St. Paul's.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): Why bring that up? There is one more thing I wish to say. Commissioner Wood has to handle not merely people of one language or extraction but a varied humanity, and the manner in which he has dealt with people of foreign extraction during the war has made them all love him and has been of the greatest assistance to Canada in preventing sabotage. During the war we were all worried about sabotage, but the commissioner and his entire force are together responsible for our record in that respect. It is they whom we have to thank for the absence of sabotage during the war. I could not allow this opportunity to pass without saying how proud we as Canadian citizens are of our great northwest mounted police and of all its officers.

Mr. FRASER: How does the marine service compare now with what it was before the war? This year the estimates of the R.C.M.P. are nearly \$4,000,000 more, and I wondered how that service compared with what it was before and the reason for the big jump.

There is one more question. Before the war, did the R.C.M.P. have an officer in each public building as at the present time?

An hon. MEMBER: That is not marine service.

[Mr. D. G. Ross.]

The CHAIRMAN: I would remind the committee that we are considering vote 350, marine services arising out of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, enforcement of federal statutes generally, and other incidental expenses.

Mr. FRASER: You are quite right, Mr. Chairman, but owing to the fact that you called the item "carried" so quickly we did not have a chance to get up on it.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: The hon. member wishes to know how the marine section compares with what it was prior to the war. The establishment prior to the war was 236. The establishment that has been authorized, though we have not yet got the full complement, is 280. Before the war the branch operated 32 comparatively small ships. It has acquired new ships, some being of the Bangor and Fairmile type which are much safer and can operate on high seas much more effectively than the smaller units which were in operation before the war.

Mr. FRASER: In consequence of having these more efficient ships, which can cope with rougher seas, is the R.C.M.P. covering a more extended coast line?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Yes. It is covering more ground, and it is intended to have R.C.M.P. patrols on the great lakes for the protection of the revenue along that portion of the Canadian frontier.

Mr. FRASER: That will be on lake Ontario, lake Erie, lake Huron, Georgian bay and right through lake Superior? Will there be one ship on each lake, or will one ship cover all the great lakes?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I understand that there will be six posts. It is intended that the force shall be quite mobile, moving wherever requirements for the protection of revenue make it necessary.

Mr. FRASER: Are they Fairmiles or faster ships?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: These are three-man crew harbour craft on the lakes.

Mr. FRASER: Where would the ports be?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Cornwall, Kingston, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Windsor—

Mr. McIVOR: Fort William?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Not yet—

Mr. FRASER: No villages.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: —and we trust that the people of that region will continue to be so well behaved that it will not be necessary to patrol it.