

camp. At one of the camps a couple of years ago one young officer came with about 60 men; another came with only 10 or 12 men. The latter, being asked why he had not more men, blamed the service roll and the small pay. The other man, on being asked how he got so many men, said he always carried his service roll in his pocket, and a couple of nights after he returned from camp he would have a dance, and any one who enrolled in the militia was allowed to go there, and the young ladies were invited to come, and consequently he said every year he had four times the number of men required; he never failed to bring out a full company because he looked after the matter 365 days of the year.

Mr. MACDONALD. The hon. minister did not discuss to any great extent the question I ventured to raise in regard to the cadet corps. He has told us, on page 10 of his memorandum, that his system of military and physical training in the schools was first agreed upon under the provisions of the Strathcona Trust by the Militia Department and the Board of Education of the province of Nova Scotia in 1907. That system formed the nucleus of the system throughout the Dominion. Nova Scotia was the only province that had any teachers who were instructed and gave any instruction in the schools in 1907. Then came New Brunswick in 1910, and the other provinces, I understand, have only come in last year. Even with them all coming in my hon. friend says:

This year the courses in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Ontario had to be materially reduced on account of lack of funds.

I presume that is because the funds of the Trust, supplemented by the grants of the provinces, are insufficient to enable these schools to be operated. If that is so, has the Board of the Strathcona Trust or has Lord Strathcona himself, any judgment with regard to the matter, or consented to any portion of the funds of the Trust being used to enable the schools to go to camp? If the scheme is a good one, it would appear to me that it would have been better for the minister first to have seen that an ample number of instructors were supplied to all the schools rather than to make what seems to be a doubtful experiment in taking the boys and girls to camp.

Then I would like the minister to tell me where the camps, which he proposes to inaugurate, are to be held. He said in a general way that they would be held in every county. My hon. friend will see that by a vote such as is proposed here, he cannot furnish sufficient facilities to hold the camp in every county in the Dominion

in which these cadet corps may be. I would like him to give me full details in regard to all these matters.

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). The hon. member will recollect that the estimates were not passed last year until very late, and that is the reason there were no funds available for carrying on the work, as referred to in the paragraph which he has read. The Strathcona Trust itself exercises no control, and does not attempt to exercise any, over the young lads throughout the country.

Mr. MACDONALD. Except to this extent, that the money is granted to that trust on certain conditions.

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). It is all done through the provincial institutions—

Mr. MACDONALD. Under a special agreement made with each province which sets out the details.

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). It is done by the executive councils for the Strathcona Trust of Canada, through the Militia Council of the Militia Department, in conjunction with the Minister of Education in each province.

Mr. MACDONALD. Does not the department seek the consent of the Minister of Education in each province to the proposition?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). Why should that consent be asked? We do not ask the consent of the provincial authorities when we are calling out the men for the militia camps. This is a federal government.

Mr. MACDONALD. But my hon. friend misapprehends the situation. There exists in certain provinces of the Dominion—to a greater extent in some, and to a lesser extent in others—a system of instruction along military lines in schools, which is the result of the agreement that has been arrived at between the trustees of a trust inaugurated by Lord Strathcona and the various provincial governments. I have under my hands a form of agreement with one of the provinces which sets out in detail how this instruction is to be carried on. One of the stipulations in regard to the expenditure of money is, that 50 per cent be devoted to looking after the physical training of the boys. A certain proportion only is to be devoted to military training, and another portion to rifle shooting. Now that is the basis upon which this whole system of military instruction in the schools and amongst the cadets of the country has been built up.

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). Oh, no, the cadet system existed in the country long before the Strathcona Trust was formed.