

all the hospital staffs, Record and Pay Staffs, Troops in training, Forestry Corps, Reserves, Railway Corps &c. UNLESS A VERY LARGE PROPORTION OF THE MEN SERVING UNDER SIR ARTHUR CURRIE IN FRANCE WERE OF NO USE. If the men sent him were of no use it was his duty to so report. He did not. He dared not. The record of his corps was to the contrary. But it happens that the record of ineffectives other than casualties, in England, is available. Although not a man went overseas who had not undergone the necessary expert medical examination, an occasional unfit man did get over. But errors of that kind were not government errors but errors of expert advisers of the government. I happen to have some 1917 figures in my possession. These show the ineffectives from other causes than wounds in war to be less than two per cent of the forces sent over. Moreover this percentage includes the fit men also, who, in the ordinary course of nature and events, are ill or otherwise incapacitated. The figures for other years ought to be relatively similar. At the same time the list of deserted, discharged and resigned (including all those discharged on account of wounds as well as on account of illness) formed less than six per cent of the total forces sent over. Sir Arthur Currie's figures would call for twenty-five per cent of inefficiency. The fact is that there was maybe three or four per cent of inefficiency. The non-combatant force of the Canadian Army overseas was about twelve per cent of the total forces. Even if it is contended by Sir Arthur Currie that the Railway Corps, Forestry Corps Labour Corps &c were of no use (surely a remarkable contention for a commanding general) and if to this percentage be added the percentage of really inefficient in England, then, upon the basis of the 1917 figures that I have, there would remain some ten per cent of the total forces sent over, or some 40,000 useless men actually serving under Sir Arthur Currie in France and in reserve in England and necessarily a very large proportion of them must be in France. The men must be in either place because the discharge figures have already been taken in by way of percentage in the calculation. So, repeated Sir Robert, "I say that Sir Arthur Currie's statement is an exaggeration and is such on its face."