

U.28085

On being informed that no opening existed, I applied for a Special Reserve commission in the R.C.A.F. under the Air-Training scheme, in January, 1940; passed medical examination, March, 1940; acknowledgment received from Ottawa, June 4th; was informed on July 9th that no call could be made on my services, and was advised to offer them to another branch of the Forces.

On July 16th last I requested a definite reply from the Department as to whether my services were required for the Army, and received the letter dated July 19th, copy of which is enclosed. You will note the two points made in my reply.

Since my services are not required, I am taking up agricultural work for the remainder of the war. I shall retain my file of correspondence with the Department, and shall be pleased to make it available to the Opposition after the war. Meanwhile, I feel that the facts should be in your possession. You are at liberty to use them as you see fit, though I should prefer that my name should not be mentioned unless necessary.

2. If I remember rightly, your son is an ex-Cadet of the Royal Military College, so you will be well informed regarding the training there. I think it might prove very illuminating to check up on the number of ex-Cadets employed by the Government in this war. On November 25th, 1940, the secretary of the R.M.C. Club of Canada informed me that there were "hundreds of ex-Cadets in the same predicament as myself" (i.e., unable to obtain an appointment), and partly at my suggestion the Club sent out a questionnaire to ex-Cadets, copies of which were filed with the Department of National Defence. The Department has, therefore, had full details of ex-Cadets' qualifications since about January last. It might prove interesting to see how many have been called on, in view of the R.M.C.'s position as the only "national" College in Canada.

Yours very truly,

H. V. S. Page.

P.S. I am sending copies of the correspondence also to Mr. Hanson, and to the editor of Maclean's Magazine.

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 5 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 201)

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