

of a man with a wife and nine children. The pay of a private soldier is \$1.30 a day, and a calculation showed that this man would get in pay and allowances \$180 a month. This sum would provide pay for five single soldiers. How the enlistment of a man who has a wife and nine children can be justified at this early stage of the organization of the forces is beyond my comprehension. This question, I understand, was raised in another place, but no answer was given. I should like to suggest to the leader of the House that he ascertain whether this report is actually true. The question of the enlistment of men with large families is germane to the purpose of this Bill. The honourable gentleman would perform a useful service if he would endeavour to have the Government confine enlistments to single men. The man with nine children should not come into the picture until we have our backs to the wall and are fighting down on the banks of the St. Lawrence, as it has been suggested we may have to do.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I know nothing of that incident except from what has been said in the House of Commons or has appeared in the Press. In my opinion the enlistment of heads of large families would be unnecessary for a long time to come, and that it should already be permitted passes my comprehension. I will not express in more vehement terms my surprise at the statement that has been made, but before this session comes to an end I shall ascertain whether there is any truth in it or not. I do not know what regulations have been issued or what advices have gone out. I do know that in Montreal more than one man has been refused because of having a wife and two children. I was surprised, therefore, to hear that a man with a wife and nine children had been accepted.

Hon. JOHN T. HAIG: I know that in one city a man with a wife and five children has been accepted. He is a captain. No distinction at all is made between married men and single men. In a broadcast over the radio a colonel, whose voice I recognized even before his name was announced, said: "Your wife and children will be taken care of by the Dominion Government. Come and join, and get the pay and allowances." In the city where I live there is nothing at all to prevent men from joining; the larger a man's family the greater the inducement for him to join. This is an outrage. Take the case of a captain, a married man with five children, who has a job at which he earns about \$150 a month. Can the honourable gentleman tell me what would be paid to that officer? Doubtless it would be very much in excess of \$150. This country is

going to be loaded with debt. That is one reason why I object to the present system of enlistment. I think it would have been better to adopt some other system.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: So far, I understand, the Militia have been called out—the men belonging to the various regiments.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Let me answer that. In towns that I know of, the strength of battalions heretofore has been about two hundred men. Now they are recruiting up to one thousand men. The honourable gentleman from Edmonton (Hon. Mr. Griesbach) can correct me if I am wrong. In one city where recruits are being called for, the newspapers are carrying large quarter-page advertisements.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: What city?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: It is not Montreal. In the military district to which I refer not a single battalion was up to strength. Volunteers are being called for, and I am informed that inducements are being offered and married men are joining up. I think it would be far better to accept only single men at first.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I think the Government would be happy to receive constructive suggestions from honourable members of this Chamber at this time in order that conditions of the kind referred to may be avoided.

Hon. J. A. CALDER: Honourable senators, the question raised by the honourable member from Edmonton (Hon. Mr. Griesbach) is, I think, exceedingly important, and it seems to me that we are entitled to receive from the Government before Parliament prorogues an official statement as to the policy it intends to pursue in order to secure the men needed for service. At the present time we do not know what is being done. We know that men are being enlisted, but we do not know under what conditions. Enough has been said here to-day to indicate that this matter may involve very large and unnecessary expenditures. So I say again that before honourable members leave Ottawa they should clearly understand the policy of the Government in this respect.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I shall ask the Minister of Defence to make a clear statement from his seat in the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Would the leader of the Government kindly get this information for the House? I understand that recruiting for the Canadian Militia and also for the "Field Force" is in progress. I do not understand what is meant by the "Field Force." Perhaps the leader of the Govern-