

heartily supported by hon. members on both sides of the House.

Mr. OLIVER: In regard to this land grant, what will be the decision of the Government as to the point at which responsibility to the returned soldier begins? I think the question was asked and the minister made the reply that it would be provided under regulation made by the board. Has the Government not a definite policy on that point? That is to say, will men who have never gone overseas come within the provisions of this Bill?

Mr. ROCHE: We did consider that point, and the question was discussed as to whether we should include the soldier who enlisted but who did not leave Canada to go overseas. For instance, suppose a man enlisted just before the war ceased. He might not have the privilege of going overseas. Inasmuch as we desire to secure as many settlers as possible for the land, we decided to include those, so that they could take advantage of the provisions of the Bill just the same as those who went overseas.

Mr. OLIVER: A large number of men who have enlisted in Canada, have been discharged in Canada as unfit. Will they be included?

Mr. ROCHE: Any person who has enlisted and who has been honourably discharged, through no fault of his own, would be included.

Sir HERBERT AMES: What would be the position where that clause does not coincide with the corresponding clause in provincial legislation? For instance, the Ontario Act provides that:

The lands set apart shall be reserved for location by persons who since the fourth day of August, A.D. 1914, have been upon active military or naval service with the British forces, out of Canada, against the King's enemies.

In other words, you cannot take advantage of the Ontario Bill for agricultural settlement unless you have been out of Canada. Therefore, there would be a wide class who could take advantage of this Bill, but who could not take advantage of the Ontario Bill.

Mr. ROCHE: That shows that our policy is much more generous than the policy of the Ontario Government. Hon. gentlemen might as well compare the acreage given by the Ontario Government with the acreage given by the Dominion Government.

[Mr. Marcil.]

The Ontario legislation provides for only eighty acres whereas we provide for 160 acres. The Ontario Government charges 6 per cent whereas we charge only 5 per cent. They have also more restrictions as to the class of individuals who can take advantage of their legislation. There need be no difficulty at all on that score. Each legislature has paramount jurisdiction within its own sphere. I think that what has been said goes to prove that our legislation is much more generous to the soldier than the legislation of the Ontario Government.

Sir HERBERT AMES: The Ontario Government legislation restricts the offer to men who have gone overseas, and I think it is the same in New Brunswick.

Mr. MARCIL: That is not fair to the men who enlisted in good faith and who were not given the opportunity of going overseas, but were sent to Bermuda, and on their return to Canada were discharged. The Ontario legislation leaves them out entirely.

Mr. GLASS: Could a soldier receive assistance from this Government and from the Ontario Government as well?

Mr. ROCHE: Yes.

Mr. GLASS: Supposing the Ontario Government had a first mortgage on the soldier's land. What security would the Dominion Government take if they also loaned money to him?

Mr. ROCHE: The facts of receiving assistance from the Ontario Government would not interfere with the soldier's receiving this loan. With this loan he might be able to pay off the first mortgage the Ontario Government held against his land, giving us a first mortgage, and use the balance of the money in working his farm.

Sir HERBERT AMES: Would it be possible for him to take one farm under the provincial government and one farm under the Dominion Government?

Mr. ROCHE: Certainly.

Mr. MACNUTT: This Bill deals only with settlement by soldiers, but I wish to say a few words in connection with the general settlement in the West. I think such a discussion is in order because the same principle obtains. Whether a man is a returned soldier or an ordinary settler, we want him to be successful; that is the main thing. There are two classes of land in the West. One is the homestead system of free government land, and the other is the system of purchasing lands that have