

*Canadian Forces Act*

at present in distress because of the abnormally wet season of 1951. In reply may I say that under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act assistance may be granted only if the conditions found upon inspection are such as to bring the area within the terms of the act.

**Mr. J. H. Blackmore (Leithbridge):** Is the parliamentary assistant aware of the fact that farmers all through Saskatchewan and Alberta have been paying one per cent of their income from sales every year from 1939 up to the present time and that the great percentage of those now in distress have never had five cents in return as consideration for that contribution? Second, at what time does the department determine whether or not the production of grain involved is below 8 bushels: in the year when the grain is grown or some time far in the future?

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Blackmore:** It is a question.

**Mr. McCubbin:** The government at all times takes these things into consideration, and the hon. member can rest assured that the farmers of western Canada will always be looked after.

**Mr. Blackmore:** That is not an answer at all. I asked the parliamentary assistant two specific questions and they have not been answered.

**Mr. Ferguson:** Is that the reason this government has given so much consideration to farmer Thomson?

**Mr. Cruickshank:** We will show you on election day.

**CANADIAN FORCES ACT**

TO PROVIDE FOR COMPENSATION, PENSIONS, ETC.  
TO MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AND  
ALLIED SERVICES

**Hon. Alphonse Fournier (for the Minister of National Defence)** moved the third reading of Bill No. 21, respecting the Canadian forces.

**Mr. Green:** Is the parliamentary assistant making any further statement with regard to welfare services, as promised the other day?

**Mr. R. O. Campney (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of National Defence):** I did not promise to make any further statement with respect to departmental policy in regard to welfare services. I did say that I would endeavour to produce and table certain correspondence, which I have done. In reviewing the matter, I find that on four different occasions the minister has dealt

with this subject fully in this house. In all fairness I must say that I think he has stated very clearly the government's policy up to the present time and the reasons therefor. I do not think there is anything I can usefully add to the statements that he has already made in that connection.

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, when the bill was under consideration in committee on November 16 I asked the parliamentary assistant whether there had been any change in the policy with regard to welfare services from that which was followed during the second world war. That policy was of course that certain national organizations were invited to help provide such services. I refer to the Canadian Legion, the Y.M.C.A., the Knights of Columbus and the Salvation Army. If the parliamentary assistant will turn to page 1095 of *Hansard* he will find that I asked him to check up with the Department of National Defence to see whether there had been a change of policy as a result of which these organizations would not be permitted to participate in Korea or for the benefit of the troops who have gone to Europe. As reported on the following page the parliamentary assistant said that he would endeavour to find out whether there had been a change in government policy. Today he has made no statement whatever with respect to that particular phase of the matter. I suggest to him and to the house that this question is of great importance.

During the course of earlier debates we referred to information that had been received from men in Korea and also the statement made by the Primate of the Anglican Church. Today we find in this morning's *Globe and Mail* a report of an interview with one of the men, who has just returned from Korea. After dealing with the very severe weather conditions they met there, this returned veteran said:

Even worse than the weather conditions . . . is the lack of entertainment facilities available for Canadian troops. "Why wasn't the Sally Ann there," he asked.

He adds:

"We could always find them in the last show, but now there is nobody."

Informed that the auxiliary services, such as the Y.M.C.A., the Salvation Army and the Legion, were not allowed to take their workers to Korea . . .

I will not quote the man's name, but it is in the dispatch. I continue:

. . . could only say: "Somebody must be out of his mind."

[Mr. McCubbin.]