

Pacific shores. As was said a few moments ago by the honourable senator from Winnipeg South-Centre (Hon. Mr. Haig), everyone knows now that the war is at our shores and realizes how important it is and has been to keep our Navy at the greatest strength possible. Then, of course, we have to provide an Active Army both for service overseas and at home, as well as a great number of men for maintenance of the ordinary services of Canada. Let me remind honourable members that in a very large and widely extended country such as this, with a comparatively small population, it needs a fairly large proportion of our man-power to keep those ordinary services in operation.

That is the man-power problem with which we are faced in this war, and honourable senators will see how vastly it differs from the man-power problem which faced us in the last war. As I have said, there are to-day much larger demands on our man-power, and they are made in many more directions than they were between 1914 and 1918. Having those facts in mind, I believe it is true to say that the provision of men for our overseas Army is relatively less important now than it was at that time. I do not wish to be misunderstood. I would be the last man to say that Canada should confine her efforts to producing food and munitions. Our boys are red-blooded, they want to go out and fight just as their fathers did before them, and no man and no government which tried to prevent them from doing so would have a moment's chance. But I do say that the actual provision of men for the Army is not relatively as important at the present time as it was during the last struggle.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: Surely the honourable senator is not serious in saying there is less demand for men in this world war than in the last war? He must know there is a great demand for men.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: There is certainly not less demand, but the demand is in different directions from what it was. I will deal with my honourable friend's statement in a moment or two. Let me take his suggestion of two days ago that this country should send an expeditionary force to Australia or the Far East. I wonder whether that would be the best way in which the efforts of this country could be directed. I remember at the beginning of last week listening in Montreal to a most interesting speech given before the Canadian Club by the High Commissioner for India in the United States. He talked about the war effort of India, and told us that that country was producing a certain number of the more

elementary munitions of war, and that so far it had raised a million men for the Army. "But," he said, "with our warlike races in India we could raise 8,000,000 men if we had the munitions, supplies and equipment for them."

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: He concluded his remarks with an appeal to the United States and to this country to provide India with more planes, tanks and munitions to equip those 8,000,000 men. Now I do suggest to my honourable friend who leads on the other side (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) that it would be far better for Canada to continue the man-power we are now employing in providing munitions and supplies and the ships to carry them to those men in the Far East, rather than attempt to send an expeditionary force there.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: That is one example of the difficulty of determining the best manner in which the man-power of this country can be applied.

What is our present man-power problem? As the honourable senator from Winnipeg South-Centre (Hon. Mr. Haig) has said, we have had so far no trouble in providing men for the Air Force and the Navy. Up to the present we have been able to provide all the men that our greatly expanded war industries have required. But it is a different story in regard to agriculture. And let me remind honourable members that agriculture is a tremendously essential part of our war effort. I happen to know that in two different sections of the country agricultural labour is becoming very scarce. In that part of Northern New Brunswick where I happen to have a summer cottage, and where, incidentally, the French-speaking and the English-speaking populations are about evenly divided and have equally enlisted in very large numbers for overseas service, agricultural labour is becoming very scarce. The same is true of the Eastern Townships.

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: And Western Canada.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: I noticed in the newspapers this morning reports which lead me to believe that that is true of other sections of Canada. There is a suggestion to-day by the Director of Farm Training in the Ontario Department of Labour that the Federal Government should import Italian war prisoners to help as Canadian farm labourers. The reason why the importation of farm labourers is necessary is, as he says,