EXPLANATORY NOTE.

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Railway Act to provide that members of the forces, when in uniform, may be carried free on railway trains within Canada.

In the last war, the railways voluntarily carried men for single fare on week-ends. Now they carry them every day at half-rate. The Railway Act does not at present provide for any special concessions to soldiers during the War, nor has the Board of Transport Commissioners power to order any. In view of the fact that so many camps are far away from railways and the distribution of Troops for training spread all over Canada, it is desirable to give soldiers some form of free transportation as a large number have been killed on highways thumbing a ride in many places in Canada while in training.