

fully equipped, when does the minister expect to have them up to strength, fully officered and fully equipped? Who are the officers commanding these four divisions?

Mr. RALSTON: I thought the hon. member asked about the fourth, sixth and seventh.

Mr. HAZEN: The fourth, sixth, seventh and eighth—if they have been named. If they have not been named, does the minister expect that they will be named soon? Can he inform us also of the names of the officers of the brigades in those four divisions?

Mr. RALSTON: It will not take me long to answer the first question, with regard to the matter of strengths of the fourth, sixth, seventh and eighth divisions. I am sure my hon. friend will not expect me to give that information. The matter of the strengths of divisions and of units is not one on which I would make a public statement.

Mr. HAZEN: I did not ask for the numerical strength; I meant, were they up to strength? We know that they have an establishment.

Mr. RALSTON: It is the same thing. I do not think I should make a statement about that.

With regard to the names of the commanding officers. The name of the commanding officer of the fourth division is Major General F. L. Worthington, who was in command of the first army tank brigade in Britain, and who was brought back to command that division.

With regard to the officers commanding the sixth and seventh divisions, announcement will be made very soon. The eighth division is not far enough advanced in mobilization to name an officer commanding at the present time. Did my hon. friend ask another question?

Mr. STIRLING: Brigades.

Mr. HAZEN: I asked about the equipment.

Mr. RALSTON: The same consideration applies to the question of equipment. I would not make an answer with regard to the equipment of an individual division.

Mr. HAZEN: Well, the names of the officers commanding the brigades comprising the divisions.

Mr. RALSTON: The officers in command of the two armoured brigades of the fourth division are Brigadier Burns and Brigadier Thomas. Brigadier Hyde is in command of the support group of the fourth division.

With regard to the sixth division, Brigadier Leclaire, Brigadier Colquhoun and Brigadier Martin are the three officers commanding brigades. Brigade commanders for the seventh division have not yet been named.

Mr. NICHOLSON: One day last week I raised with the minister the question of the policy the government is following in connection with men who were on farms on the 23rd of March, when the Prime Minister announced the government's policy. I mentioned a number of cases. I have in mind one in particular where the man was on the farm until the 1st of April. I have received to-day a letter from the officer commanding in Regina to the effect that in view of the fact that this man's case was heard on the 27th of February, 1942, and he was granted postponement to April 1 and it was definitely marked "final; no action can be taken by this department". A letter dated May 1, from the young man informs me that they have 300 acres of land ready to seed and they have not been able to get any help. Could the minister make some statement in this connection in view of order in council 2251, which starts as follows:

Whereas the Minister of National War Services and the Acting Minister of Labour report that there is a growing shortage of agricultural labour and that it is necessary for the effective prosecution of the war to take steps to stabilize employment in agriculture. . . .

Have these orders been relayed to the different officers concerned, and will the minister explain the relationship between his department and the Department of National War Services? The Department of National War Services informed me over the telephone that they have no further jurisdiction after a man has been called up by the army, and the officer in charge informs me that they have no jurisdiction because the Department of National War Services on February 27, before this order was passed, had reached certain conclusions. Could the minister make a statement as to whether some definite policy can be announced?

Mr. RALSTON: Did I understand that some decision had been made by the board on February 27, granting postponement or the reverse?

Mr. NICHOLSON: Until the 1st of April, but he was called on the 1st of April.

Mr. RALSTON: What is the situation now? Is there a further application for postponement?

Mr. NICHOLSON: Yes. The man has made his application to the officer commanding. The officer reports that a decision