

board and the ultimate decision rests with them. I can assure the hon. member for Kootenay West that I shall continue to press for a decision in this matter, because I think the claim is well founded both in equity and in law.

Mr. ESLING: Perhaps the minister or someone on that side will tell us who in the treasury board does determine this. Is it one member or all the members of the board? It puts us in this position, that after the 245 members of the House of Commons and the 96 members of the Senate have passed an amendment to the statute, three or four ministers can say: "Well, that is all right, but we will not pay."

Royal Canadian Navy.. . . .	102		
Permanent active militia.. . . .	416		
Royal Canadian air force.. . . .	147		
Royal Canadian naval reserve.. . . .	43		
Royal Canadian naval volunteer reserve.. . . .	71		
Non-permanent active militia (Dec. 31/35).. . . .	6,888		
Non-permanent Royal Canadian air force.. . . .	52		
Total of all ranks and all services.. . . .	7,719		

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I would rather not answer that question.

Mr. HEAPS: Would the minister be good enough to give the committee information as to the size of our permanent force at the present time, and what it is made up of?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Does my hon. friend want just the military forces, or the entire scheme of all the defence forces? I will give the whole thing. The Royal Canadian navy—

Mr. HEAPS: Cut the navy out.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): That is the last thing that we intend to do. The standing on March 31, 1936, was as follows:

Officers	Men	Total
	830	932
	3,585	4,001
	884	1,031
	148	191
	897	968
	41,873	48,761
	289	341
	48,506	56,225

Mr. HEAPS: What is the total number of officers and men in the permanent force?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): In the permanent active militia, 416 officers and 3,585 men, or a total of 4,001 as of March 31, 1936.

An hon. MEMBER: Just where is this saving of \$42,447 made?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): On the general vote there is an increase, under administration, of \$3,573; an increase, under training, of \$9,000; a decrease, under maintenance, of \$42,620; a decrease in the vote for general purposes of \$12,400, making a net decrease of \$42,447.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: As this is the only militia item left perhaps it might be allowed to stand.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I was going to have the vote on civil pensions stand on the understanding that anything at all concerning the department could be discussed on that vote.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: That will answer the purpose, provided it is understood that the discussion can be general.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Absolutely.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. I. Mackenzie.]

Royal Military College, \$368,400.

Mr. HEAPS: I assume this refers to the Royal Military College at Kingston. I think we ought to have information as to the number of cadets in training.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): At the present time, 191, but facilities are provided for 200 cadets.

Mr. HEAPS: Will the minister give us some idea of how they are chosen for training purposes?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I understand they are chosen on provincial submissions, so many from each province. If any province does not come up to its quota the full strength is made up from other sources.

Mr. HEAPS: How are the appointments made in the provinces?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): There are applications, and selection is made by competition on the basis of merit.

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Chairman, item 70 has passed but I heard the minister say that he had no objection to the discussion of matters affecting his department.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I am leaving one item over on which any matter concerning the Department of National Defence may be discussed.