

With regard to women's services, I am glad to see the improvement which has been made.

Reference has been made to the audit department, and I have no complaints in this regard, but last session I asked the minister whether the auditor-general had power. I understand that every department has a separate audit system of its own and the whole business is involved and complicated. I fail to see any coordination. I am not criticizing the army, but I do criticize the dead-hand of the treasury that does not control all of these expenditures for the war and veto some of them. The audit system does not control them adequately. A new appointment has been announced in connection with censorship, and I suggest that it might be well to censor occasionally some of this gentleman's remarks, as for instance certain utterances in New York about the defence board. I am for the censor plan of the last war.

Another matter that in my opinion calls for some remedy is the position of certain men in the publicity branches of the department. I do not see why a man who simply writes up news and publicity, a liaison officer, non-military so far, should be wearing a uniform when he is not a soldier. It is all right if he is in fact a soldier; but if anyone has not had any military training and is not actually a soldier, but is engaged in such work, then I suggest he might wear an armlet and a civilian suit. Certainly he should not allow people to think he is a soldier when he is not and has never had any military career.

What are Canada's objectives and strategy for 1942? I do not know. It seems to me, as I have been reading *Hansard* in the past few days, that there are priorities at the Pacific coast and in the maritimes, and that we have established with our limited defences priorities for some provinces and not for others. I believe that some statement along that line should be made. There should also be a national system teaching every citizen on the Pacific coast and in the maritimes to handle a rifle. The minister made a reply last session about that and went to considerable pains to see if something could not be done, especially in the Pacific province. I admit the minister went into it and gave an elaborate reply, but we have not the rifles for the civilian population. The Finns in Finland were ready for the enemy; they had shock troops and by guerilla war they kept the enemy at bay for months by skilled training in rifle affairs. In the schools of Ontario 50,000 are to be given military drill by the department of education this year at the expense of the school boards, and no doubt they will have miniature rifles. The people

of this country will have to wake up and adopt a national policy of rifle education along that line before it is too late.

There is another matter which arose during the depression, and in connection with which the present minister has not been unsympathetic. I refer to the large number of young people who were cast into prison for riding the rods looking for a job and other minor matters. Many of these young fellows escaped sentences as vagrants but others were sent down for two years to penal institutions under this parliament. If a proper survey were made, a good many of those who are in for what may be called secondary offences might be admitted to the army. I know some oppose it. I know a commanding officer, one of the finest in France, who got into trouble in a financial way and was sent down. I wrote the new Minister of Justice in February about the matter; he was sympathetic and was going to get a survey made. We should have a survey and get the facts and train men for war or home defence or overseas service as was done in the great war.

I believe also that recruiting would be helped very much if the minister would allow men of the services a day off on such occasions as the 17th of March, the Holy Name parade, the 12th of July, St. George's day—and I see my good Scots friend on the front bench so I may add St. Andrew's day. On that great day November 30, 1941, there were 20,000 present at Varsity stadium for the Winnipeg-Ottawa final game. In the Holy Name parade there were a good many soldiers in uniform. It is a good advertisement for recruiting. I am not prepared to say anything about the 12th of July because, being an Irishman, I am too modest, but I hope some recognition will be given by the different services to the patriotic festivals I have named, for one day, or a day and a half, as was done in the great war with camps near cities.

While the plebiscite cannot be discussed here, the result of the voting was a demand for greater efficiency in our war effort, on land, in the air and on the sea. Parliament should act at once and get value for this two billion dollar vote and programme for war in 1942. The people should have more knowledge about our war effort. Criticism is not as bad here as it is in England or Washington. I disagree with the hon. member for Vancouver South we are not in a position yet to do anything out in the Pacific. We have lost command of the sea; we have made some improvements in the defence bases there, and got commandos and vast improvement.