

they will be paid for that also. I am not claiming credit for these changes. They were in the scheme prepared by my predecessor before I took office.

Mr. MACDONALD. Is not my hon. friend, in proposing to train the cadets in camp, taking a new step in that particular?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). Not necessarily. Provision has always been made in the law for the training of cadets, but it has been for training in a company attached to the active militia, which I do not believe in. The consequence is that the cadets have never been in camp, as a great many parents do not want their children, owing to the fact that the recruiting was not always carried on as it should have been, to attend these camps of instruction with the ordinary active militia. The purpose is, now to have these young lads brought into camp separately and under the conditions which I have already explained.

Mr. MACDONALD. Where?

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria). In each county or riding headquarters. If my hon. friends will be good enough to send in a statement in each locality of where we could get good areas for the boys to drill on, I would be much obliged. This year the camps will be held in centres in each county.

Mr. MACDONALD. It is a question whether that policy is a good one or not. These cadet companies are the product of the Strathcona Trust, which contemplated that half of the money which was devoted to each province should be expended for physical training. Thirty-five per cent. of the amount which was devoted to each province, has been utilized for military training and 15 per cent. for rifle shooting. We have the Boy Scouts also, which is an independent organization, and I have heard it discussed with very great seriousness as to the wisdom of the militia department taking hold of this cadet movement to the extent to which they propose doing by putting these boys into camp. There is the problem that my hon. friend suggests and the point occurs to one, as to whether the parents of the children who are getting this military training to-day under the provisions of the Strathcona Trust from their instructors and teachers at home, would care to allow them, at tender years, to go off and remain in camps under the method proposed here. It seems to me that the true purpose to be served by the expenditure contemplated by the Trust, would be better attained by allowing the young boys to get the military training given by the instructor at home, inculcate them with a

desire for militia work, and militia interests, and then, when they have reached the age when they can join the active militia, they will afford a very fair recruiting ground for the militia. But the fusion of the small boy into the militia directly at that early age, is quite a problem. I am not speaking in a captious way, but in the exercise of such judgment as I can apply to the problem and I must say that I cannot view the proposal favourably. I think the problem of taking the boys away from home—I do not care whether it is to the county town or some place else—and putting them into camp in the summer time, will not work out successfully. I think the results would be very much better if their teachers and instructors developed their interest in militia work by training them in the schools so that they might be brought into the militia in future years. This would result in larger additions to the militia than if, at an early age you proceed to drive and enforce the militia training and render entirely stale the experience which the young man would look forward to, when he got up to the age at which going to camp would be a real experience.

It is of course a question of policy, and for my part I am inclined to think that the expenditure the minister proposes, of \$130,000 for that purpose, is not one which in the long run will be in the interests of the militia, or in the general interest of the country. I would like to hear the minister's justification, if he has any, for this change. We have a Boy Scout movement which is not dealt with by the minister and in which you have local interest and enthusiasm displayed by the young men in that branch of junior military work, and you have the cadet movement which is confined to the schools to which the young people go until they get to the age when they have developed some interest along military lines and would go into the militia as a matter of course. I doubt the wisdom of this vote.

Mr. CARVELL. I have given this matter a good deal of consideration, and I have arrived at somewhat the same conclusion as the hon. member for Pictou (Mr. Macdonald) although perhaps my views are a little more pronounced than his. I have read with a great deal of interest the memorandum sent out by the minister, in which he contrasts the 'positive' training with the 'negative' training and in which he shows that the negative or demoralizing training which the people of Canada are receiving is costing \$127,000,000. I am not going to analyse that, but I may say that the militia, which my hon. friend (Mr. Macdonald) has so much at heart is not the positive training for good that the minister thinks it is. I hope I will not be