

MILITIA COUNCIL SITS ALL NIGHT

Col. Sam Hughes and His Ad- visers Received Grave News Calmly

MUST BE NO FLINCHING

Defence Plans Are Perfect- ed and Energies Will Now Be Devoted to Mobiliza- tion for Service Abroad

Ottawa, August 4—The announce-
ment of the declaration of war was
received with calmness tonight by
Col. Hon. Sam Hughes and the mem-
bers of the Militia Council, who are
in an all-night session preparing
plans for Canada's defense.

Col. Hughes in an interview said
to The Gazette: "I have been trying
for a number of years to get people
in Canada to realize that the aim of
Germany was the control of the sea
as well as of the land, involving the
annexation of Belgium, Holland and
Denmark, with their states and col-
onies. To have permitted this would
have relegated Britain to the posi-
tion of a second-rate power, and would
have set back the civilization of the
world by 200 years. It would have
been the greatest catastrophe that
could befall humanity. Britain has
ever fought and won in the cause of
liberty in every part of the world. I
feel that in this case Britons will
prove themselves true to their re-
cord."

"There must be no flinching," said
Col. Hughes in conclusion. "It will,
if necessary, be war to the death."

The naval and militia departments
have practically completed plans for
the defence of Canada to the limit of
Canadian resources. Upwards of 4,000
troops are now under arms at the
strategic points of Halifax, Sydney,
St. John, Quebec and Esquimaux.

DEFENSE WELL IN HAND.

Mines have been placed in all these
harbors, and special arrangements
have been made to fortify all the
cable and wireless stations. Big guns
have been mounted at the three cable
stations on the Atlantic coast, and
soldiers are on guard at each sta-
tion. The 94th Regiment of Baddeck,
Cape Breton, was ordered out this
afternoon to support the regulars at
Sydney, in view of a possible attempt
by a German cruiser to capture the
coaling station and also the neigh-
boring cable station at Glace Bay.
One of the Victoria regiments of
militia was also ordered out to as-
sist the regulars at Esquimaux.

It is the intention of the depart-
ment to give the troops who will be
mobilized at Quebec at once at least
a week's training under active ser-
vice conditions before they are al-
lowed to leave for the scene of the
war. No word has as yet been re-
ceived from the Imperial Government
as to where and when the Canadian
troops will be needed. It may be
that they will be kept in readiness
in Quebec for some weeks. As far
as can be learned, the War Office
is asking Canada at the present time
simply to prepare for the first duty
of local defense, and it is to meet
this that the Government is now
bending most of its energies. Four
miles of targets are being erected at
Val Cartier, outside of Quebec City,
where the troops are to be mobilized
and firing practice will be conducted
there night and day as soon as mob-
ilization takes place.

Col. Hughes will himself proceed
to Quebec to take personal charge of
the camp there. Rush orders have
been placed for tents and other ne-
cessary militia equipment, and all
firms manufacturing militia supplies
are at work night and day.

The Government will at once take
steps to detail soldiers to guard
canals, harbors and points of trans-
portation. In case any one violates regulations, the sol-
dier on guard will have orders to
"shoot to kill."