

# WAR OFFICE CONTROLS THE CANADIAN FORCE

## Question of Second Contingent Depends on Events

## BEST ENGINEERS SECURED

**Whole Staff of British Firm Offered  
to Government—Details of Expect-  
ed Expenditure of \$30,000,000 —  
Finance Bills Discussed.**

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Ottawa, Aug. 21.—In the House of Commons this afternoon Mr. E. M. Macdonald (Picou) asked whether the Government could give any information as to when the Canadian expeditionary force would go and where it would be sent. The Minister of Militia, Col. Hughes, said that all that had been done so far was to offer the expeditionary force, which offer had been accepted by the War Office. "We have nothing to say," he said, "as to the destination of the troops. We shall simply send them across the water at the disposal of the War Office."

### Cavalry and Artillery to Go.

In reply to a further question by Mr. Macdonald the Premier said that the question of raising the second expeditionary contingent would depend on the exigencies of the war. Sir Robert said it was undesirable to give any details as to plans at present, or as to the disposition of the permanent forces at Halifax and other points. It was certain, however, that one regiment of cavalry and two batteries of horse artillery from the permanent force would go to the front.

### Fine Engineering Corps.

Col. Hughes added the information that the Engineering Corps was being raised from the best men available in Canada. He announced that Sir John Jackson, a British contractor, who has now large Governmental contracts in Canada, had volunteered to the Government the services of his whole engineering staff.

The Minister also agreed with a suggestion of Hon. Dr. Fuglesby that officers as well as men should receive their service uniforms free from the Government. At the present time a

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grant of \$140 is being made to each officer to pay for his service uniform and other incidental expenses.

The details of the expected expenditure of \$30,000,000 between now and the end of the fiscal year for military purposes, as given by Premier Borden, include the following:

Pay of 25,000 officers and men for seven months, \$6,100,000; rations at 40 cents per man, \$2,100,000; purchase of 5,000 horses at \$200 per horse, \$1,000,000; transport to Quebec, \$450,000; ocean transport, \$1,000,000; transport abroad, \$300,000; return transport to Canada, \$1,450,000; engineers' services at Halifax, Quebec and elsewhere, \$500,000; equipment, \$2,400,000; clothing, \$300,000; ammunition from Dominion arsenal, \$660,000; censorship, \$150,000; pay and maintenance of troops on guard in Canada, \$2,000,000; for additional troops and unforeseen expenditure, \$7,615,000.

## Financial Bills Discussed.

There was considerable discussion of the two bills of the Minister of Finance, to conserve the commercial and financial interest of Canada, and with regard to the Dominion notes act. Mr. White stated that the present gold holding, both by the Dominion and by the chartered banks, as security against the note issue, was approximately \$120,000,000. The gold now held in the treasury against Dominion notes totalled \$91,735,584. Under the new legislation, whereby there may be a note issue up to \$50,000,000 against a holding of 25 per cent. in gold, the Finance Minister announced that the percentage was 81. The reduced percentage would still be larger than that held by the Dominion prior to 1899.

## Must Have Recourse to Loan.

Mr. A. K. Maclean asked for information as to how the Government expected to raise the balance of 100 million required up till the end of the fiscal year and not provided for either by the war taxes or by the supplementary notices. The Finance Minister said the only other course would be by loan, but he did not specify how the loans were to be raised under existing conditions of financial stringency.

In regard to the provision allowing banks to issue notes against securities pledged with the Minister of Finance, Mr. White said that a committee of the Bankers' Association, with the Treasury Board, would pronounce upon the collateral. Mr. F. B. Carvell, Mr. J. H. Sinclair and Mr. F. B. McCurdy each registered a plea that the Government should see to it that while the banks were reaping advantages they should be required to grant additional consideration to manufacturers and others seeking credit at the present time. "We are making very large concessions to the banks," declared Mr. Sinclair, "but they are making no concessions to our citizens."

## Bankers Should Make Sacrifices.

Mr. Carvell declared it was time that the holders of bank stock and the bankers made some sacrifices, as well as the rest of the people of Canada. He suggested that the Government should prevent the banks charging more than seven per cent. interest on all necessary or secured loans. Mr. McCurdy said that already the banks had intimated that there was to be a considerable curtailment of credit during the coming winter. He thought the Government should see to it that every solvent concern was able to secure credit from the banks at a reasonable rate of interest.

Both bills were put through their third reading and sent on to the Senate.

## Aid to Soldiers' Families.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier desired to know whether there would be legislation for the assistance of families of Canadian soldiers at the front, and was informed that the Canadian patriotic fund, concerning which Hon. Robert Rogers introduced a bill, was designed to this end, but that it

would be supplemented to any extent necessary by legislation either this session or next.

## Rights Suspended During War.

When Hon. Mr. Doherty's bill to amend the Immigration act was under consideration Premier Borden assured Mr. E. M. Macdonald, who made inquiries, that the Government was taking power to deal with patents held in Canada by Germans and Austrians. Mr. Borden said that all rights held by Germans or Austrians were suspended during the war, though they might be revived at its conclusion.

## Naturalization Amendments.

At the evening sitting two amendments to the naturalization act, which was passed last session, were given first reading. Both were introduced at the request of the British authorities. One provided that on the dissolution of a marriage between a Canadian woman and an alien, by which the former had lost her Canadian nationality, renaturalization could take place without the elapse of the five-year period otherwise necessary. The second provided that when the husband of a Canadian woman changed his naturalization the wife might retain hers by declaration.

## Tax on Sugar Criticized.

Considerable further discussion in regard to the proposed customs and excise changes, took place. Messrs. F. B. Carvell (Carleton, N.B.), E. M. Macdonald (Pictou, N.S.), E. W. Nesbitt (N. Oxford), W. F. Carroll (Cape Breton, South), and others made some criticism of the proposed increase in the taxation upon sugar, pointing out that it would bear heavily upon the citizens of small means.

Mr. H. Boulay (Rimouski) and Mr. Carroll urged increased taxation of automobiles and other luxuries, while several members suggested imposition of the income tax or stamp duties upon commercial paper. Mr. Macdonald suggested a tax on fancy matches, and an export duty on pulp and pulpwood, while Mr. Carvell believed that in case it was found necessary to take further steps to collect additional revenue, as Hon. Mr. White intimated might be the case, a stamp tax might be placed upon patent medicines. Hon. Charles Murphy presented the case for Ontario beekeepers, who might suffer through the increase in the price of granulated sugar.

## Tobacco-growers at Disadvantage.

Mr. A. B. McCoig (West Kent) pointed out that under the proposed changes increased protection was being given to the tobacco manufacturers but not to the tobacco-growers. He thought some of the benefits should be given the tobacco-growers when steps to increase the revenue were being taken.

## Control of Prices Asked.

Mr. W. E. Knowles (Moose Jaw) brought before the Government the request of the Moose Jaw Trades and Labor Council for Government control of prices during the war. In reply, Premier Borden gave assurance that this and similar requests already received would be carefully considered by the Government.

## Only Two Bills Left.

When the House adjourned shortly before 11 o'clock the order paper had been practically cleared. Only two bills remain to be considered: one to incorporate the Canadian patriotic fund, and one respecting the increased restrictions against immigrants from countries with which Canada is at war.

## Senate Promptly Passes Bill.

Ottawa, Aug. 21.—(C. P. Despatch.)—Prompt despatch was given to-night by the Senate to three of the Government's war measures. In one hour the upper House passed without amendment bills authorizing the Government to make bank notes legal tender, empowering the Government to deal stringently with aliens, and voting fifty millions for war.