

WAR BILL OVER \$152,000,000, WAR STRENGTH NOW 275,000

House of Commons Gets Comprehensive Statement on Dominion's Share in War—Premier Explains About Battleships Not Built.

RIOTOUS CONDUCT OF SOLDIERS CONDEMNED

IN THE COMMONS.

Statement of Canada's war strength so far, and war expenditure submitted to House.

Total strength 275,000, and expenditure for year over \$152,000,000.

Riotous conduct of soldiers discussed by leaders; offenders left to civil law.

Through trains from Halifax to Vancouver on the Intercolonial and Transcontinental predicted as a service for near future.

Bill to supplement Provincial prohibition laws further amended.

Sir Thomas White gave facts re flotation of the \$75,000,000 loan.

Sir Robert Borden explained why the three warships contemplated by Govt. had not been built.

Ottawa, April 6.—The House of Commons last night received a 100 page report showing Canada's military strength and Canada's war bill.

Up to March 18, according to the memorandum, 262,999 officers and men had been reckoned as having joined the expeditionary force, besides 13,000 on garrison duty in Canada, bringing the total up to 275,000. As the authorized total is now 500,000, there remains a balance of 225,000 to be raised.

The forces are divided as follows: Overseas, elsewhere than in England, 62,000; overseas, in or on passage to England, 44,000; in Canada, 134,000; total effectives, 240,000. Non-effectives (casualties, etc.), 22,000; total expeditionary force, 262,000; troops on garrison duty, etc., in Canada, 13,000. Grand total, 275,000.

Canada's war outlays to the end of the last calendar year totaled \$152,596,048.35, of which \$99,819,435.10 was spent within nine months of the present fiscal year. The principal items of expenditure were \$81,873,220 for pay and allowances, \$7,263,099 for ocean and \$3,289,589 for land transport, \$9,148,607 for separation allowances, \$9,911,707 for clothing, \$1,261,509 for boots, \$1,909,669 for remnants, \$3,423,188 to the Ross Rifle Company, \$2,066,263 to the Dominion Cartridge Company, and \$2,880,683 for motor conveyances.

On February 3, last year, an order for twenty thousand rifles and bayonets was placed with the Ross Rifle Co. at \$28 for the rifles and \$5.25 for the bayonets. A further order for sixty thousand was placed on Feb. 20. General Gwatkin estimated the needs in a year's time with 150,000 men enlisted at 140,000 rifles and 175 million rounds of ammunition. Assuming that the war would last longer he advised the ordering for delivery during the year of 120,000 rifles and two hundred million rounds of ammunition. On May 14, last year, authority was given for the purchase of another sixty thousand rifles of the same pattern and at the same price.

Soldier Riots.

Riotous conduct by soldiers was discussed in the House, the debate being brought on by a report on the Winnipeg disorders.

The report led Sir Wilfrid Laurier to express the opinion that young men who enlisted should be taught that the first duty of a soldier was the maintenance of discipline. He thought that men who participated in disturbances should be dealt with by the military authorities instead of being handed over to the civil authorities.

Hon. A. E. Kemp agreed that discipline should be maintained, and pointed out that in view of the number of troops enlisted there had been comparatively few disturbances.

Sir Robert Borden said that men guilty of disorderly conduct such as had been described were handed over to the civil police. He believed that the practice in garrison towns was to surrender men charged with contravention of the civil law to the civil authorities.

Although passenger and freight trains will soon be running over the Intercolonial and the National Transcontinental Railways from Halifax to Winnipeg and the West, Hon. J. D. Reid, Acting Minister of Railways and Canals, said that the National Transcontinental Railway had been thrown upon the hands of the Government by the refusal of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company to operate it without rolling stock and equipment. It had been necessary to provide locomotives and cars from the Intercolonial system in order to utilize the line. However, a service had been inaugurated and would shortly be extended.

Trent Water Powers.

There was some discussion of the

acquisition of water powers on the Trent Valley Canal by the Ontario Government.

Hon. George P. Graham warmly commended the Provincial Government for its action. Hon. Dr. Reid and Capt. J. H. Burnham, of West Peterboro, regreted that the policy of the Laurier Government of alienating water powers on the Trent had made it necessary for the Ontario Government to spend \$8,350,000 to carry the Hydro-Electric power system eastward.

Hon. C. J. Doherty's bill to supplement Provincial prohibitory measures was discussed in committee of the whole. The Minister of Justice accepted the amendments proposed by H. H. Stevens, of Vancouver. These amendments provided that brewers and distillers who violated the law may be punished by the suspension of their inland revenue licenses, in addition to suffering other penalties set forth in the bill.

Several other amendments were presented by the Minister, and Mr. Hugh Guthrie, of South Wellington, moved that a section be inserted forbidding the manufacture of intoxicants in dry Provinces. This remains to be disposed of.

Sir Thomas White gave the Commons information regarding the flotation of the loan of \$75,000,000, recently authorized by Parliament. The Finance Minister said that the sale of \$75,000,000 of 5 per cent. securities was made in New York to J. P. Morgan & Company, with whom were associated as syndicate managers Brown Brothers and Company and Harris, Forbes & Co. The terms of the sale were as follows: \$25,000,000 of five-year bonds at 99.56; \$25,000,000 of ten-year bonds at 97.13, and \$25,000,000 of 15-year bonds at 94.54 less an allowance of 2% per cent. covering commissions to syndicate and sub-syndicates, brokerage costs of distribution by selling agencies and advertising throughout the United States.

Bought Small Ones.

Hon. A. E. Kemp gave Mr. E. M. Macdonald a list of purchasers of small arms' ammunition from the Government since the war began. The majority of those who bought were military organizations and rifle associations. There were sales to the Ross Rifle Company, the Dominion Cartridge Co., the Royal North-West Mounted Police, the Savage Arms Co. and Vickers, Limited.

Mr. J. H. Sinclair, of Guysboro, asked whether the Government had built the three warships promised by Sir Robert Borden in 1913 as Canada's contribution. The Premier replied that the Government had deemed it unwise to bring in the Naval Bill again unless there was some assurance that the Senate would pass it.

Sir Robert proceeded to explain that arrangements had been made with the Admiralty in 1914 that Admiral Sir John Jellicoe should visit Canada in August or September in order to give the Canadian Government the benefit of his knowledge and experience in formulating a permanent naval policy for the Dominion. The outbreak of war prevented Sir John Jellicoe from coming to Canada, and the British Government had advised the Canadian Ministry to concentrate its efforts upon raising and equipping military forces for service in the war, hence the Canadian authorities had undertaken no naval operations on a large scale.

Sir Sam On Ocean.

George W. Kyte asked the Prime Minister whether any word had been received as to the date of departure of General Hughes for Canada. Why had he not sailed on Saturday as expected? Mr. Kyte asked.

"I don't know that it was stated that he was sailing on Saturday," said Sir Robert. "I have received a message that he sailed this morning."

J. G. Turriff, Assiniboia, made reference to an item in the press to the effect that "Col." J. Wesley Allison was coming back. Was there any truth in the report, he asked, and had any action been taken to secure his return?

"I am not aware of any," said Sir Robert. "I have no official information on the matter, but I understand from authentic information that he has notified the chairman of the Davidson Commission of his readiness to return."

"Where from?" asked Mr. McDonald. "I don't know," said Sir Robert.

The Minister of Militia will be represented before the Royal Commission appointed to investigate the Kyte charges as to fuse contracts by three counsel of his own. It is learned that Mr. J. S. Ewart, of Ottawa; Eugene Lafleur, K.C., of Montreal;

and Hon. Wallace Nesbitt, of Toronto, have been retained by the Minister by cable, and will protect his interests during the investigation.

Kastella's Case.

The facts, so far as disclosed in the official documents, in regard to the dismissal by the Minister of Public Works last February of Auguste Kastella from the position of Mechanical Superintendent of Dredges, were laid before Parliament in a return presented yesterday. Kastella was the German-born official who came under criticism in the House shortly before his dismissal.

The suggestion that ~~interned~~ alien enemies should be released to help in Canadian farming operations does not propose to include those interned for offensive reasons, but only those taken in charge because of destitution.

The Government is not yet ready to tell just what has been done with the public subscriptions raised last year, on Government suggestion, for the purchase of machine guns for the Canadian forces.

The total amount subscribed by the public for the purchase of machine guns was \$1,265,752, including the gift of \$500,000 from the Ontario Government. Not all of this money has yet been applied.