

terfering with the Hydro Commission's radial railway scheme.

The railway companies through their shareholders had in the past been able to put a pistol to the head of the Government and dominate things in Canada, concluded Mr. Marshall.

#### Case for C.N.R.

The real situation, declared Hon. I. B. Lucas, was that the C.N.R. people claimed the proposed line was an essential part of their transcontinental system. The Legislature had protested against the line last year and had succeeded to the extent that the Dominion authorities had decided that the line could not be located without approval of the Dominion Railway Board. That had been satisfactory to the Hydro, but unfortunately that protecting clause had been stricken out in the Senate. Representatives of the Hydro-radial recently had indicated that they would have been satisfied had the Dominion Railway Board been left in control of the situation.

#### Key to Situation.

If the C. N. R. got control of what is considered the best entrance to Hamilton they would hold the key to the situation, and it would be difficult for another railway to get a satisfactory entrance to Hamilton.

In reply to Mr. Rowell, Hon. Mr. Lucas said the Senate had taken action which had given the Dominion Minister of Railways power to approve location of the C. N. R. Hamilton-Niagara line.

#### Crux of Situation.

Mr. Sam. Carter (South Wellington) said that the situation at Hamilton was the crux of the whole problem. That was the one spot where it was essential that the Hydro should beat the C. N. R., otherwise the purpose of Hydro-radials would be defeated.

"What we have gone through this winter has proved the need for Hydro-radials, but the Hydro should be given a guarantee that no more companies would be allowed to build lines between Windsor and the Niagara border.

#### Government Unfriendly to Hydro.

There was an undercurrent of feeling that the Government were not in full sympathy with the Hydro project, and he urged them to go the full length in protesting against and fighting the proposed C. N. R. line.

He would have the Hydro-radials built by the soldiers when they came home.

#### No Paper Protest.

"Instead of a paper protest there should be a downright, vigorous protest from the Ontario Government to the Government at Ottawa," concluded Mr. Carter.

"We are fighting to-day the same old interests which have been the enemies of the Hydro for years," said Mr. Allan Studholme. "If the C. N. R. was allowed to go ahead with its plans, access to the waterfront would be largely shut off and Hamilton would have more objectionable level crossings than any city of its size on the continent, and for those reasons if for no other the proposed route of the C. N. R. through the City of Hamilton should be fought to a finish.

#### Different With Hydro.

"If the C. N. R. was allowed to go into Hamilton over the proposed route the Hydro would not be able to get a satisfactory entrance," said Mr. Studholme, "and the progress of Hydro-radials would have a serious setback. The C. N. R. was after 'dollars and dividends,' while the Hydro was trying to give the public cheap and efficient service. A private corporation never plays the game fair; it plays for itself all the time."

# SURPLUS OF SOLDIERS TO GO ON THE LAND

## Government Unprepared to Take Care of Them

### FIRST ALLOTMENT SHORTLY

Training Institute to be Established  
at Monteith—Mr. Rowell Thinks  
it Would be Wise to Acquire Land  
in Older Ontario.

"We have been agreeably surprised by the number of applications from returned disabled soldiers who want to settle on the land in New Ontario; in fact there are more men applying to go than we can take care of at the present time. We hope in a short time to send out our first allotment of men."

Members of the Legislature were a little astonished when Hon. G. Howard Ferguson made the above announcement in the House yesterday afternoon when his bill providing for the agricultural settlement of soldiers and sailors on the land was given a second reading. Previous to Mr. Ferguson's authoritative statement the impression had been prevalent that the returned soldiers did not want to go on the land.

#### Training at Monteith.

The Minister announced that a Training Institute would be established at Monteith, where the returned soldiers would be taught farming. A trial board would be formed, he added, by the Soldiers' Aid Commission of Ontario to weed out the returned men who were not strong enough to stand the conditions of homesteading in New Ontario. There would be a staff at Monteith and the returned soldiers would be taken in groups and settled in communities. A central group of buildings was to be erected and competent officials would have charge of the work. As the work goes on land will be cleared. Mr. Ferguson mentioned that they were planning to clear ten acres on the front of each eighty-acre lot. At the Central Depot machinery and equipment would be kept for the convenience of the soldier-settlers, and such community equipment as stumping plant, mowing and sowing machines would also be available at the Central Depot. The Minister was convinced the returned men who decided to settle in New Ontario would make good, because the history of that country had shown that the people who had gone there had achieved wonderful success. He had heard of instance after instance where men had gone to New Ontario with little or no capital and in ten or twelve years had been able to dispose of their holdings for from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Similar opportunities awaited the returned soldiers or anyone else who chose to settle in New Ontario. Of course, the soldiers would have concessions as compared with other settlers.

#### Pay While in Training.

The Minister stated that while the soldiers were in the training school at Monteith they proposed paying them for the work they did. In that way they would avoid disappointment to many of the returned men, who, after a reasonable trial, might find conditions were not congenial or that their physical condition was such that they would not be able to remain in New Ontario. While at the training school the soldiers would receive board and lodging, care and wages.

#### Older Ontario, Too.

Mr. Rowell inquired if the Government had taken into consideration