

# DESERTED THEIR ARMY: EAGERLY REJOIN NOW

## Italian Reservists Given Send-off on Leaving to Fight for Liberty

Twenty-eight Italian reservists were given an enthusiastic send-off at a special service in the Methodist Italian Church, Elm street, last evening. All of them had responded freely to the call of the sunny homeland, some of them had deserted years ago from the Italian conscript army, but they were returning without compulsion to rejoin the colors and fight for liberty.

Most of the addresses were delivered in the Italian tongue, which seemed to be especially adapted to passionate utterance. The Italian Consul, Dr. M. Marino, said he spoke as the representative of King Victor Emmanuel of Italy. He commended them for meeting in the house of worship, because by honoring God they were honoring the fatherland. Speaking of Italy's part in the struggle in Europe, Signor Marino said that notwithstanding the losses sustained and the great fight before them Italy would go on with the war while there was one Italian living. The unity of Italy depended upon the victorious issue of the war.

### The Fight for Liberty.

Dr. J. A. Macdonald addressed the men through the interpretation of the pastor, Rev. N. Caerlappotti, but the interpreter was scarcely necessary, as the audience seemed to apprehend every sentence before it was interpreted. He reminded them of the great men that Italy had produced in the past, and called upon them to follow in the footsteps of Garibaldi and Mazzini. They were grappling with the same evil to-day that cursed Italy under Caesar and France under Napoleon. They were to fight for the end of wars and Kaiserism, not only for Italy, France, Russia and Britain, but for Germany, Austria and Turkey, too.

Signor Mollo, editor of The Tribuna Canadiana, roused the audience in a fighting speech. Speaking to the soldiers, he urged them to fight as men who represented the weak and the oppressed. Italy was not fighting merely for self interests, but for the same things as her allies; they were fighting for liberty as against Prussianism.

The choir rendered several anthems in Italian under the direction of Signor S. Rossi. A collection was taken for the Red Cross Fund. Rev. S. W. Dean presided over the service.