

# PETITION NOT SEDITIOUS

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## Templars Want To Protect Canadian Soldiers In England.

"No, I will not give you a copy of our petition because I would not trust a Toronto paper to print that petition verbatim," said W. M. McMillan, grand secretary of the Royal Templars of Temperance of Ontario, to The Star yesterday in reply to a request for a copy of a petition which the Templars sent to the British Parliament in February, and which was mentioned in yesterday's despatches in connection with another petition from the Social Service Council of Halifax.

The former petition appeals for the same protection for Canadian soldiers in England as they receive in Canada. It opens with a preamble of loyalty, and then outlines the temperance situation in Canada.

J. A. Austin, Dominion councillor of the Royal Templars, characterized the statement that Canadian prohibitionists are preaching **sedition** as "absolute nonsense." He said there was not a prohibitionist or temperance man in Canada holding such views. Mr. Austin has had a son at the front since the first contingent went over.