

COMPULSORY SERVICE,

The suggestion made that the production of veal and lamb be prohibited seems reasonable. This is the best way to keep the people from buying a luxury which replaces a necessity.

An ounce of preventive action, looking to food economy, is worth a ton of good advice. If good advice would produce results, there would be no need for organizations, including the police force. All we would need to do would be to pass laws. We administer law and order by means of the police out of an experience which teaches us that good advice is futile in itself.

Recruiting speeches contain abundance of good advice. Yet compulsion is necessary to fill the ranks. The principle of compulsory military service laws is as old as democracy. Every law contains it which makes effective the dominant will of the majority as expressed, under our constitutional system, by Parliament. Citizenship entails obligations as well as privileges. An obligation of the individual is a right of the many finding satisfaction. Thus, under democracy, we achieve, or believe we do, a high degree of true political freedom, on a basis of justice.

Compulsory service to the state is the very foundation of democracy—the state being made up of the people, governing themselves by majority rule. The enforcement of every law on the statute books involves recognition of the principle of compulsory service. The citizen must recognize the fact by behaving himself, paying a fine, going to jail or being hanged. Otherwise, he is an outlaw. History proves that the vast majority of people are not outlaws and realize the danger of outlawry. The average man has a high respect for law and order; otherwise the police would have to be much more numerous than they are.

Compulsory service is the very lifeblood of democracy, as regards either the saving of calves or the killing of Germans.