

5,000 CITIZENS IN PARK PASS WAR RESOLUTIONS

Cheers Greet Remarks of Speakers — Provincial By-election Candidates Varley and Galbraith Address Assembly

Five thousand people gathered in Queen's Park last night in response to an invitation of a Citizens' Committee to consider the recent disturbances. Several resolutions, which the committee had drawn up, setting forth the policy which they demanded the Government should follow in dealing with **aliens**, were passed. Subsequently a committee of citizens, returned soldiers and women was appointed to present the resolutions to Mayor Church this morning. Any further action to be taken by the committee will be decided upon after the conference with the Mayor.

Less than a thousand people were gathered in the rear of the Parliament Buildings for the meeting at 7.30, when it was advertised to start. However, by the time it was over, at 9 o'clock, fully 5,000 assembled round the bandstand. Comparatively few men in khaki were in the crowd. There were a few, some of them on crutches, and a small number of Royal Air Force men. Men in mufti, but wearing overseas buttons, formed a considerable part of the crowd, as did women, many of the latter having children in arms. A few plainclothes men were scattered among the crowd.

Everybody who spoke was cheered vociferously. All of the resolutions brought forward were endorsed without discussion. The committee which called the meeting is composed of Messrs. G. H. Smith, 12 Davenport road; R. S. Cook, 84 Muir avenue; J. L. R. Bacon, 277 Huron street; Henry E. Crockford, 14 St. Clair avenue; John Galbraith, 91 Cronyn avenue; Hedley E. Burrell, 418 Ontario street, and E. Coupland, 331 Wallace avenue.

Called Meeting to Order.

Sharp at 7.30 the Chairman appointed by the committee, Mr. G. H. Smith, 12 Davenport road, called the meeting to order. He said the crowd was to consider a matter as important as was the calling for volunteers at the beginning of the war. "This meeting is called for the protection of citizens and the liberty of the people of this city," he said.

A number of resolutions which had been drafted by the committee were read by the Chairman. As each was read the crowd greeted it with cheers and prolonged applause. The resolutions, which will be submitted to Mayor Church by a deputation composed of five citizens, five returned soldiers and women this morning, are briefly as follows:

The Resolutions.

That licenses hitherto granted to all **aliens**, unnaturalized or otherwise, be cancelled for not less than two years after the war.

That all **aliens** be returned to their several countries or drafted in the C.E.F., and that **enemy aliens** be interned or put to work on the land.

That all unmarried men of the Toronto police force who participated in the outrage of Saturday night be drafted into the C.E.F.

That the meeting request the immediate dismissal of members of the force who showed lack of self-control by brutally striking returned, limbless heroes, also the wives of Toronto citizens.

That the police be instructed to disarm all **aliens**. A clause added to this resolution offered the assistance of the audience to help the police if it were impossible for the latter to do the work.

That this meeting declare itself against the wanton destruction of property, but hold that any further destruction that might take place would be due to lack of action by the Federal and Provincial Governments.

That immediate action be taken to repress disloyalty and sedition in Toronto among the foreign element.

Another clause contained in the general resolution demanding a general apology from the authorities for Saturday night's attack only received a luke-warm endorsement. Just before the meeting adjourned the resolutions were formally passed by a show of hands. Another resolution passed just before the meeting concluded called upon The Mail and Empire and The Globe to make apologies for using the word "hoodlums"

in connection with the disturbances, in their columns.

Blames the Government.

"The blame has been with the Dominion and Provincial Governments from the start," said the Chairman. "They have times without number been told what was going on and yet not one single step has ever been made for the protection of citizens and returned men." (Applause.)

"I, of course, am only a crank," continued the Chairman, amid laughter, going on to say that if an election took place now that any person who voted for a member of the old Government would not deserve to be allowed to vote again.

"What have they done for you?" he shouted.

"Nothing," came a voice.

Against Orders in Council.

He criticized the Government warmly for making laws by order in Council, when it was possible to have Parliament pass on them, mentioning specially the prohibition order. The Chairman also criticized the Government for only appointing a Commission to investigate alleged improper treatment of returned men on transports to Canada, and then, he said, nothing was heard of the report.

It was wrong, the speaker said, for people to say leave things to be corrected "until the boys come home." That was a cowardly way. "Those people let them fight their battles in France and Flanders and give their lives and their limbs, and then they wait until the boys come home to fight their social, political and religious battles for liberty. It is a scandal on the Dominion that the citizens of Toronto have allowed themselves to be so bamboozled as they have been. It is time there is an awakening among you."

In reading the resolution referring to **aliens** the Chairman said that foreigners in **enemy** countries were made to work at small pay. "What do you do here in Canada?" he asked, dramatically.

"Clean them up," someone shouted, amid laughter.

Aliens a Chosen People.

"Here you allow them to pile up their wealth and sneer at you," continued the Chairman. "When you remonstrate with them they say, 'Your Government will take care of us.' (Applause.) Haven't they a right to think the Government will take care of them? The Government has treated them as if they had a right to consider they are the chosen people of the Government of Canada." (Applause.)

The resolution referring to the police was first hooted, and then cheered as it was better understood by the crowd. Chairman Smith said that if the policemen were placed in the army they would get their punishment. They would have their rights of citizenship taken away from them.

After the resolutions were read the Chairman called on the crowd to sing "God Save our Splendid Men" and the National Anthem. While this was being sung anyone knowing the numbers of policeman who used batons on returned soldiers or women on Saturday night were invited to give the numbers to the committee.

Make Aliens Fight.

Mr. R. S. Cook, a member of the committee, said that, while the G. W. V. A. was not behind them, he was a returned man. "I demand that the Government shall take steps to make these **aliens** fight," he shouted. "If they won't do this, it will be up to us to go and see that they get it done."

Political candidates were also among the speakers. Mr. Wm. Varley, Labor-Soldier candidate in Northeast Toronto, said the alien question was not such a problem as it was a matter of sincerity. John Galbraith, Independent Conservative candidate in East York, endorsed the resolutions, and asked: "The **aliens** what are you going to do with them?"

"Kick them out," came the prompt reply.

Mr. Galbraith said he did not think the returned men would have acted as they had last Friday night had there not been some reason for it. He believed representations should be made to the Toronto and Ottawa Governments to have returned soldiers placed in the Civil Service positions. (Applause and laughter.)