

CITY RUSSIANS DO

NOT FAVOR WAR

Demonstration Called for
Turned Into Socialist Pro-
test Against War

ADVISED NOT TO ENLIST

Endeavor to Secure Recruits
Met With Slim Response
on Champ de
Mars

Twelve thousand was the number set by the enthusiastic organizer as the crowd of patriotic Russians expected to turn up on the Champ de Mars last night to demonstrate in favor of the Triple Entente but those who gathered were some three or four hundred Russian socialists whose utterances would not have pleased the Little Father of all the Russias. In anticipation of a tremendous crowd and possible trouble sixty policemen took strategic positions on the Champ de Mars.

The main demonstration was scheduled for 8 o'clock but the socialists proved more enterprising and appeared at 7.30 o'clock. There were both women speakers and men speakers and they immediately began fervent appeals to those who were gathered there not to enlist for the war.

"Don't be fools," said one burly speaker, waving his arms. "Let the capitalist fight his own battles. You have nothing to gain except a bullet in your arm or a leg off. Don't you enlist. If they ask you, tell them to go and fight themselves, if they are so anxious about it."

The tenor of most of the speeches was the same. When the time came for the advertised demonstration the socialists filed off the Champ de Mars and collected in front of the Drill Hall, a large part of the crowd following them. There they so blocked Craig street that the police took charge of the situation and dispersed the crowd. There was no rioting, and this task was accomplished without any trouble.

Later it was stated that the Russian Consul and the Russian priest had arrived at the Champ de Mars, and that they were ready to take the names of patriotic Russians who wished to go to the front, but very few went towards the part of the field where the representatives of the State and religion of Russia were said to be.

"They got no names," said one Russian gleefully. "We have not many of the real Russians here. They are mostly Russian Jews who have no great reason to love the country they left. Most of them never ate white bread until they came here, and they do not want to go back to fight for the old conditions. That country is too autocratic for me, and I will not enlist even though I would be arrested and thrown into prison when I return to Russia for not doing so. I would rather stay away altogether."

Although an organized demonstration did not take place a number of informal meetings of foreigners took place, and the excited discussion in each group revolved around the war. A sight-seeing crowd which expected fun had gathered along the parapet, but they riveted their attention, for the most part on the Drill Shed where various corps were on parade, and they watched the heavy gun carriages pulled smartly out on the road and after a parade through the streets, return again. The Italians with waving banners came along this street and they met a shouting throng of French-Canadian enthusiasts, both shouting out interchanges of compliments on their respective mother lands as they passed.