

ENEMY ALIENS FOR HOME DUTY

Men of Alien Parentage Liable for Service in Non-combatant Units

Soldiers under the M.S.A., who are of alien birth, although naturalized subjects of Canada, will not be forced to go overseas to fight with the allies, according to a ruling which Ottawa has just made known. The soldiers of enemy alien birth are not to be included in the overseas draft, but will be transferred to a garrison regiment or other non-combatant unit for duty at home. However, the men who become soldiers under the M.S.A., who were born in Canada, but are of enemy alien parentage, will go overseas in the Forestry or Railway Construction units. In at least one case before the local appeal tribunals yesterday an alien who had received total exemption because he had been disfranchised, was drafted for non-combatant service. A Russian who had not become naturalized since coming to Canada was given exemption by Mr. Justice Kelly, and a Greek who had served in the Greek army was also exempted.

Exemptions Exceed Refusals.

Numerous were the pleas yesterday by men claiming to be the only support of invalided parents. A Christadelphian, Reginald Newth, said he would offer no resistance if the Germans got into Toronto, and that he would be disassociated from the church if he raised a hand to defend the women. Mr. Justice Kelly reserved his decision in this case. In dealing with the case of a young doctor yesterday, Mr. Justice Ferguson commented that there were too many young doctors of the applicant's age around. The applicant, Dr. W. W. MacDonald, a dental surgeon in the City Health Department, also had judgment deferred in his case until the Health Department is heard from. Mr. Justice Riddell will recommend that two applicants be given time to enlist in the O.T.C. if they can.

The claim that his color had prevented him from getting in the Officers' Training Corps and the Royal Flying Corps was advanced by Andrew Premdas, student, and son of an Anglican clergyman, born in India, in his application before Mr. Justice Clute. Interested in the "color" point, the Judge decided to have Premdas appear before him.

The number of foreigners whose cases came before the tribunals yesterday caused the number of exemptions granted to again exceed those refused. While 69 were granted, only 33 were refused.