

SOME POLICE IN RECRUITING CENSUS NOT WELL RECEIVED

Not a Few Citizens Failed to Hail the Constables With Joy,
Representatives of a Number of Firms Practically
Slamming the Door in Their Faces

MANY OF THE RESPONSES GIVEN
PROVED TO BE QUITE LAUGHABLE.

Inability to Enforce Replies Militated Against the Campaign—
Considerable Number of Foreigners, Fearing Con-
scription, Have Decamped For Across the Line

The recruiting census in Toronto has developed into a farce. This was the general summing up by police officials to-day who are engaged in superintending the distribution and collection of the census, when they were asked about the progress of the campaign.

"It is too funny for words," laughed one officer.

"I have never seen anything more humorous than some of the replies on the census forms," stated another.

"The press has spoiled the whole thing by publishing the fact that citizens are not compelled to sign the cards," was the opinion of another officer.

All, however, agree that the efforts of the police have been wasted.

In eleven of the police divisions of the city the work of distribution has been completed and the collecting begun. The exception is No. 1 Division, presided over by Inspector Samuel Dickson, and comprising all the territory between Sherbourne street, Queen street, Spadina avenue and the Island. This district is studded with offices, and although there are eleven officers out, the work of distribution will not be completed until to-morrow.

Were Not Well Received.

It has leaked out that the police have had quite an exciting time in distributing the cards, and that they did not meet with quite such a good reception as has been stated. In numerous places they were told to "Get out" as quickly as possible.

Scores of other places refused to let the police enter, and would not entertain for a moment the polite request that they take a number of cards.

One lady who employs a large number of men in the north of the city, immediately the officers entered her premises asked him to wait while she telephoned her lawyer and asked whether she was forced to take the cards.

Receiving a reply that she was not, she smilingly told the officer that he could make himself scarce—and the census cards, too.

Several large corporations downtown gave the police bad receptions and told them to go about their business. One well-known manufacturer told an officer that until the recruiting census was inaugurated he had believed that the police stood for law and order, but now— And he advised the policeman to return to his regular duties.

Not Forced to Sign.

"We are not forced to sign, and we are not going to," was the reply another officer received when he entered a store and asked the man behind the counter to take some cards.

"Why should we in Toronto only be asked to sign the census?" another wanted to know.

"Let them make it a Dominion law and we will all comply with it," was another reply given to the police.

But all this was nothing to the reception the police received when they went to collect the cards. In some places the door was practically slammed in their faces, in others they received a few forms where hundreds had been handed in. And those that were returned were so funny that in relating their experiences to-day the officers could hardly contain their mirth. On one form opposite the query "married or single," are the words, "Single, thank the Lord."

Offer Peculiar Excuses.

Very few agree that they are eligible for enlistment, while others ignore this question altogether, while they answer all the others. The few that do answer this, however, have some of the most peculiar excuses imaginable for not being eligible for enlistment.

It was never known until to-day that there were so many cripples in the city. Hundreds stated that they were ineligible for enlistment, as

they had either lost an eye or limb, were short-sighted, lame or sick.

One man stated that he would not enlist, as he did not think his wife would get the insurance money if he were killed. Another stated that he would join if Ireland were included in the Compulsory Military Service Act in the Old Country.

"Let the people of Quebec do their share and I'll do mine," wrote another.

Still another man stated that he did not have to enlist and that they'd have to fetch him if they wanted him.

Foreigners Leave Town.

Following the reports made by the various police inspectors to the Chief Constable to-day, the latter stated to "The Daily News," "The recruiting census is not turning out as well as I expected. Until I get the full returns, however, it will be impossible to know just how it will eventually turn out."

In No. 9 division in the west end of the city several manufacturers have asked for more cards, but as to whether they will all be signed is not known.

Although the majority of citizens in Toronto are treating the whole affair as a joke, it is far different with the foreign element. It is known for a fact that a number of foreigners, who believed that the census was only the prelude to conscription have left town while several have even gone to the United States.

Row of Soldiers Over Mile Long

Brigadier-General Logie to In-
spect All Battalions
Here

All the troops at the Exhibition Grounds will parade before Brigadier-General Logie to-morrow. They will form up at half past ten o'clock in order of their battalion numbers in a line stretching from Bloor street to Queen street through Queen's Park, a distance of over a mile. It will be a tight pack to get the 8,000 troops into even that space.

At eleven o'clock General Logie will ride down the lines in inspection. He will then take up his stand before the Armouries, and the troops who will have been facing west will turn south and march past the General, who is in Hamilton to-day on departmental business.

KEPT HIS FASTEST DOGS FOR ALASKA SWEEPSTAKES

"Scotty" Allan Reaches Seattle
on Way Home From
France

Canadian Press Despatch.

Seattle, Jan. 6.—A. A. (Scotty) Allan, of Nome, Alaska, owner and driver of Alaska racing dogs which twice won the All-Alaska Sweepstakes, returned to-day from France, where he sold to the French Government for army use in the Alps 440 dogs, 108 of them from Alaska. "But I saved the fleetest of my dogs and they are at Nome waiting for my return," said Allan.

Allan will not return to Nome until navigation in Bering Sea opens in June, too late to participate in this year's sweepstake race which will be held in April.

FEW FAST COLORS NOW.

By reason of the lack of fast colors, gray has become very fashionable in England, and the large quantities of dark brown colors on hand before the war are responsible for the present vogue of browns there. Scarlets, pinks and blues are very scarce.