

YE COLONEL AND YE CLERGYMAN IN SCRAP, ARE 18-YEAR RECRUITS TOO YOUNG, MAYHAP?



COL. E. W. HAGARTY.

"FOOLISH," SAYS DERBY

Wouldn't Think of Recruiting All Single Men First.

Canadian Press Despatch.

London, April 14.—Lord Derby, director of recruiting, presided to-day at a meeting of the Association of Municipal Corporations. Replying to a demand that all single men be enlisted before the married men are called up, he said he did not believe anything could be more foolish. To do so, he added, would have saved him trouble and would have brought his task to a speedier end, but such a step would have been absolutely ruinous to the industries of the country.

Lieut. Cyril Henry Dead.

London, April 14.—Lieut. Cyril Henry, son of Sir Charles Henry, was killed in the battle of Loos. Hitherto he has been reported wounded and missing.

No Blood, But Much Warm Langwidge Was on Tap.

Until yesterday Lieut.-Col. E. W. Hagarty, of the 201st Toronto Light Infantry, and Rev. Lawrence Skey did not know each other. Now they know each other too well. They met by chance on a Carlton car yesterday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Skey, who is rector of St. Anne's Anglican Church, began the conversation, and before it was over the passengers were all agog, and there was considerable commotion in the car.

"You're a traitor. You're not loyal to your country. You're a knocker. You ought to be interned," were the bouquets the commander of the Toronto Light Infantry hurled at the Anglican divine. This verbal broadside came as a reply to Mr. Skey's remark that some youths of 18 years of age should not be taken into the army because they were too young. It appears that Rev. Mr. Skey mistook Col. Hagarty for Major George H. Williams, senior chaplain at Exhibition Camp, and a senior recruiting officer. Under this misapprehension, he made a remark about recruiting boys of tender age.

"Not in the 201st Battalion," said the O.C. of that unit, disclosing his identity. "We take none under 18 except our bugle boys."

"But they are too young at 18, many of them, to stand trench life," Mr. Skey replied.

"You had better talk to the Government about that," said the Colonel. "We are following out the regulations of the Militia Department in enlisting men of 18."

Again the clergyman repeated that many lads of 18 were taken who should not be taken, and that when they got to the trenches it took two men to look after one of them.

Hagarty became wrathful and made the remark about a "traitor." "Look here," he said "this city and country is spending a lot of money to get recruits, and you are trying to block recruiting. You are a dangerous man. You should be followed up. I think I should get your name and re-



REV. LAWRENCE SKEY.

port you to the authorities. You ought to be interned."

"All right, you may get my name," was the answer.

"Well, what is your name?" "Skey—Rev. Lawrence Skey."

Col. Hagarty expressed surprise that Mr. Skey was the man his words indicated him to be. The clergyman replied that he had given his son to the army. The Colonel retorted that the young man should be brought home.

"Why don't you enlist?" he said to the minister. Mr. Skey answered he would if he could.

"Well, I have a son at the front and I am over the age limit, but I am going, too," said the O.C. of the 201st, and the dispute went on merrily.

To-day both men admitted the altercation. Both are well-known recruiters.

"I am just sending my Easter letter to the men of my parish who are overseas," said Mr. Skey to The Star. "There are over 300 of them. Out of my Bible class of 40, there are 39 enlisted. I have done my share in recruiting work."