

GUN FOR MAN WHO WON'T GO

Hon. T. W. McGarry Outspoken
on Conscription

DRAFT THE FOREIGNER

Four Strongly Worded Resolutions Favoring Selective Plan and the Immediate Suppression of "Sedi- tion" Carried.

Four strongly-worded resolutions favoring selective draft conscription and the immediate suppression of "sedition" were carried at two mass meetings held in Queen's Park on Saturday, at which it was estimated there were nearly ten thousand persons. The meetings had been arranged by the city. Mayor Church presided. The chief gathering was at the north end of the park. At each the Union Jack and Canadian Ensign were flown. Many women were present, plainly wives of men at the front, and in reserved seats round the main platform were over five hundred returned men. On the platform was the Crimean veteran, Sergt. Michael Brophy.

Gun to Make Men Go.

At this meeting Hon. T. W. McGarry remarked, amid applause, that conscription was the only fair way of getting the necessary men, and "if it was necessary a gun should be put to the man who would not go." The Mayor remarked that the four Canadian divisions, with the present depletions, would be reduced to one in a year. Sergt. Warwick, a returned man of the 20th Battalion, raised the loudest cheer of the afternoon when, in blunt phrase, he said: "Let us have conscription of the foreigner, too, not let him stay on here taking the fat jobs, and, if necessary, the returned men can fight the French-Canadians." Sergt.-Major Whitton, Chairman of the Great War Veterans' Association, remarked, pertinently: "If Canada is good enough to make a living in for foreigners and others, it is good enough to fight for."

While the resolutions were carried without a dissentient, the only demonstrative remarks came from some of the soldiers' wives—remarks showing how keenly they felt the burden of voluntarism.

Resolutions Passed.

The resolutions were as follows: "Resolved, that this large mass meeting of the citizens of Toronto places itself on record as in favor of the immediate enforcement of a policy of conscription by a 'selective draft' by the Canadian Government.

"And that it should apply equally to all parts of the country, and that there should be a uniform enforcement of the Act, with nobody excluded.

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting the Federal Government should take immediate steps to put down sedition in Canada, and immediately take steps to supply reinforcements, by conscription, so that the divisions now at the front will have sufficient reinforcements.

"Resolved, that this meeting call the attention of the Federal Government to the fact that certain sections of the country have not done their duty in this war in enlistments, and that a policy of conscription be adopted forthwith.

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this mass meeting conscription is the duty of the hour, to the exclusion of all other questions, and we hereby urge on the Government that such an act be put into force forthwith."

Supporting conscription by draft, Mayor Church asked: "Why should there be mourning and worry and anxiety in some homes, where members of the family have gone to the front, while next door the neighbors are following their usual pursuits just as if there was no war at all?"

"It is time the Province of Quebec was brought to time," continued the Mayor. "Canada is going to be a British country, no matter what Quebec thinks. When the boys come back from the front they will make short shrift of the politicians who truckle to such a Province. Quebec, in time of peace, has been the spoiled child of Confederation. While some of the men from that Province have done their duty, the great majority have done nothing but raise race and religious jealousy."

Speaks for Ontario?

Hon. T. W. McGarry said he stood there to voice what he believed the desire of the people of Ontario for conscription. He could not understand some newspapers attacking the

Prime Minister for not introducing conscription, and then when he mentioned it becoming dumb. After tracing the development of the war, he said Great Britain had seven million men under arms, "and will anyone tell me that any country is more democratic than England?" (A woman's voice; No.) We want more men because we are going to stay in the fight until victory is won. (Applause.) To whom should they look for advice but to the man who for two months had been sitting in the War Council devising ways and means of winning the war. "We want men. Conscription is the only fair way to get them, and, if necessary, the gun should be put to the man who won't go." (Loud applause.) Canada should be united; there was no reason why one part should be excluded. "Speaking as a private individual and as a member of the Government, I say this Province is united in its determination to have conscription and to have it applied to every part of the Dominion, and to see that no man enters the Cabinet or the Government of this Dominion who does not favor conscription." (Applause.)

Provincial Secretary Would Use Force

Hon. W. D. McPherson, Provincial Secretary, said everything should be subordinated to winning the war. If men were not forthcoming by one method they could only adopt the reasonable process of law to compel them. Selective draft was the right way. Hundreds of young men had crossed the border into the United States. (A voice—Bring them back.) But the frontier had now been closed on both sides. He added that the best information the Government could get showed the war would last for at least another year, and the men were wanted. Conscription would mean the mobilization of all industries and leave men where they were required. He closed by saying all party matters should be abandoned.

No Political Issue.

Dr. Charles Sheard spoke forcibly of the need of reinforcing the Canadian divisions. "You cannot make this a political issue now; it goes too deep for that." The only question was whether some men should be allowed to hold back by subterfuge. If it was said wealth as well as man power should be conscripted well and good. Those who thought would give the last dollar rather than see the Germans take possession of all.

"There is one thing, though, that the people of Ontario and the Dominions will never stand for: that is to let the best boys go to the trenches while the slacker stays at home to do the voting and make the laws." (Loud applause.)

Dr. Sheard moved the first resolution, which was formerly seconded by Canon Dixon.

Father Minehan There.

Father Minehan spoke briefly in favor of conscription. "Sir Robert Borden had said it was necessary and no one had yet accused Sir Robert Borden of ever being in too much of a hurry." (laughter and applause.)

Conscript the Foreigner.

"If the country is good enough to live in and make a good living it is good enough to fight for," said Sergt.-Major Whitton, touching on the foreigners of the west end of Toronto. Let us have done with the tommyrot of men saying they are doing their share by making munitions. So women were in England and the Government contracts there called for 60 per cent. of the labor to be by women. (A voice: So we can do it in Toronto.)

His Honor Judge Coatsworth spoke briefly, saying there were three times as many men in Canada now as were required overseas. Many men would welcome conscription.

Labor Temple Talk.

Sergt. Turley touched scathingly on "the Labor Temples of Russia," and wanted to know if Canada was pro-British or pro-German from Labor Temple talk. He believed the real Labor men were in the trenches. It was a crime not to put conscription through. "Labor men went to Ottawa and lined up sixty M.P.'s and boasted of it. They are murderers, and if they pass that we shall be partners to it."

Veteran on Conscription of Wealth.

Sergt. James Sanahan, Vice-Chairman of the Great War Veterans, made the most reasoned speech of the afternoon, in which he stated that while conscription of wealth was a good thing enough, it would be poor satisfaction, if the Germans meanwhile came through and they found that the conscripted wealth was only the more easily taken over.

Ex-Mayor H. C. Hocken also spoke.

Intern the Disturber.

"Canada and the Empire is passing through the most critical year in history, and it is our duty and our privilege to operate with these men in fighting this war to a successful conclusion," declared Mr. Fred Dane, the first speaker at the meeting presided over by Ald. Sam Ryding. "It requires at the present time men with courage to be in high places, not men with wishbones, where their backbones ought to be." To those who create any disturbance against conscription, Mr. Dane said they should be confined to an **internment** camp.

Ald. Ball urged that the conscription of men be not evaded by talking conscription of wealth. That will be attended to when the time arrives.

"We have a Government in power in Ottawa to whom we look to carry out the desires of the English-speaking people of Canada," he continued.

At Overflow Meeting.

The overflow meeting also passed the four resolutions without a dissenting voice. All of the speakers were given a sympathetic hearing by the audience of 5,000, and the only interruptions were those of encouragement and endorsement.