

# WILL USE NO FORCE TO EJECT FOREIGNER

## G.W.V.A. Will Try Peaceful Methods to Remove Alien Munition Workers.

### CONTRADICTS SEC'Y

## Central Branch Views Misrepre- sented, Says a Resolution Passed by Executive.

The Great War Veterans' Association have decided for the present to proceed along less strenuous lines in connection with their alien labor program. At a special meeting of the executive of the Central Branch of the G.W.V.A. held yesterday the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That the press report of February 15th, stating that the Central Branch of the G.W.V.A. will take action in forcefully ejecting enemy aliens from munition and other plants does not express the views of the Central Branch.

"While it undoubtedly is the feeling of all members that gross injustice is being done to the returned soldiers and soldiers overseas that enemy aliens should be employed at high wages while our boys are offering their lives against these same peoples.

"It is deprecated that the suggestion of using forceful methods has been made, at least until every peaceful process of law has been exhausted."

The above motion was also unapologetically adopted at the regular meeting of the Toronto and York District Executive held last night at headquarters offices, corner of Church and Carlton.

Col. E. B. Hardy, D.S.O., president of the Toronto and York District Executive, told The Star this morning that the resolution spoke for it.

"While Secretary Murrell may have been expressing his own views he certainly did not express the views of the Central branch organization or of the large body of returned men who believe that justice can be obtained without the necessity of resorting to unlawful means."

"While quite prepared to forcefully express myself against any recognized permanent state of affairs," said Mr. E. E. Haight, "I do not believe we are giving the present Union Government a chance if we were to take the law in our own hands and forcefully eject aliens out of factories."

Secretary G. F. Murrell of the Central Executive told The Star that he had nothing to take back. He was quite satisfied that he expressed the opinion of a large number of the veterans, and that action of some kind would have to be done to allay the feeling which was rising higher and higher, not only in his own branch but all over the city and country.

"The men simply will not put up with the present conditions of affairs very much longer," said Secretary Murrell, "and I think the Government should give the matter its most urgent attention."

Secretary J. C. O'Connor, of the Toronto and York District Executive, stated that he endorsed every word of the resolution passed by the District and Central Branch executives.

"The agitation has at least one merit," said Secretary O'Connor. "It has revealed the real feeling of the returned men in reference to the alien labor question. I am one of those who believe that the new Union Government should be given the fullest opportunity to deal with the problem. Until they have had that opportunity I think the men are ill-advised to pursue any other course of action."

"I am very pleased indeed at the action of the military authorities in allowing a three months' furlough to the married N. C. O.'s and men of the First Expeditionary force," said Col. E. B. Hardy, president of the Toronto and York District G. W. V. A.

"I know of a number of men who have been three years in France and have been practically on the line all that time. There are men of my acquaintance who have been wounded two or three times and are still carrying on. Some of these have not had more than 17 days leave in three years.

"However, I understand this is all at an end. It is a splendid order and I am convinced that it will yield splendid results in rehabilitating the men for further service."

"Will this affect the 2nd contingent?"

"I would not be surprised," replied Col. Hardy. "But of course the men of the first contingent will have precedence, inasmuch as they have been on service longer."