

Copy
of accompanied letter

Military Service Act 1917

Central Appeal Judge

Ac. 713990 - A. 630

Egna Boshart

Milverton, Ont. R.R. No. 1.

District: London

The subject of this application being in the class referred to in the Order-in-Council of Canada, passed in the year 1873, is not within the application of the Military Service Act 1917 and neither the Local Tribunal, the Appeal Tribunal nor the Central Appeal Judge has jurisdiction to deal with his application for exemption.

Upon this ground the appeal is dismissed and the Registrar should notify the subject of the application of this disposition of the application and the reasons therefor.

Clerk to the Central Appeal Judge
Ottawa, September 13, 1918



Markham Economist and Sun

HOME PHONE, MARK. 2201
RESIDENCE 2202
BELL PHONE — 18

Markham, Oct. 21, 1918
Ontario, Canada

L. J. Burkholder,
R.R. 1, Markham

Dear Sir,-

As you are no doubt aware canvassing for the Victory Loan for 1918 will commence on Oct. 28th and will continue for one month.

As not only the winning of the war but the well being and prosperity of our beloved country depends on the success of the loan it is not only a privilege but a duty for all good citizens who possibly can to subscribe for all the bonds they can pay for.

i
As the ~~religious~~ religious principles ~~prize~~ of the Mennonites and Quakers forbid them taking up arms and, I presume supplying money to purchase arms and munitions of war, a way has been found by which they can prove themselves good loyal citizens without violating any of these principles.

The Government of Canada has given its pledge that money subscribed for ~~xx~~ the 1918 Victory Bonds by these sects will be used solely for the purchase of foodstuffs.

I have received this notice from the Minister of Finance :-
"Regarding the possible subscriptions to the Victory Loan from the Mennonites of Canada, whose religious principles are well known I am Quite free to state that any subscriptions you may receive from that source WILL BE EARMARKED AND EMPLOYED FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOODSTUFFS EXCLUSIVELY."

By making this announcement from the pulpit, with any favorable comments your conscience ~~will~~ and good sense dictate you will be doing your country a service.

Yours sincerely,

R. J. Corson

Chairman Publicity Committee
for East York.

Markham. Ont. Oct. 21st 1918

S. F. Coffman, Dear brother - Greetings - Just
a line in haste. Arvo's family is all in bed and we
are looking after both horses. They are not serious.

From what information I have I think our Church
is not nearly reaching a reasonable mark in gifts
to the Relief Fund. When you are in Waterloo kindly
make some inquiries and if we find conditions to be
as they seem to be I think we will need a meeting
of our Conf. Ex. and devise some more practical
method of bringing our people to see the situation in
its true light. I hope to hear from you and trust
the situation is better than the Treasurer's books
would indicate. As ever, S. J. Burkholder

Mennonite Collegiate Institute.

H. H. Ewert, Principal.

Gretna, Man., Oct. 21, 1918.

Rev. S. F. Coffman,
Winland, Ont.

Dear Brother:-

It has long been my desire to get in touch with the Mennonites in Ontario and I write this letter to you for this purpose. I found your address in a circular letter addressed by Prof. Paul E. Whitmer to the contributing editors of the proposed Mennonite Cyclopaedia.

Would you please have the kindness to inform me how the Mennonites of Ontario have gotten along during this war, particularly how the draft has affected them? Does the Government treat you the same it treats the Mennonites in the West? In the newspapers I always find reference to an order in council the Government passed in 1893 for the benefit of the Mennonites that came here from Russia, but they never make mention of the law passed in 1867 exempting Quakers, Tunkers, Mennonites & from military service, and even the Military Service Act does not mention this act. Have your M members of draft age and the young men of Mennonite families been left unmolested? The military authorities in the West have respected the agreement of the Government with the Mennonites, only in some cases they have doubted the bona fides of their church certificates and this has caused some annoyance.

Our Mennonites here have been opposed to subscribe to the war loan, but they have contributed to the Red Cross and to the Patriotic Fund. For this year's loan the Finance Minister has given our people his pledge that the money that comes from them shall only be used for relief purposes and our war bonds shall bear a stamp stating that.

Our churches are agreed that under these circumstances they will take bonds. With concurrent mail I send you some literature that might interest you.

Yours in Christ

H. H. Ewert.

A SHORT AND SINCERE
DECLARATION,

TO OUR HONORABLE ASSEMBLY, AND ALL OTHERS IN HIGH OR LOW
STATION OF ADMINISTRATION, AND TO ALL FRIENDS AND IN-
HABITANTS OF THIS COUNTRY, TO WHOSE SIGHT THIS
MAY COME, BE THEY ENGLISH OR GERMANS.

In the first place we acknowledge us indebted to the most high God, who created Heaven and Earth, the only good Being, to thank him for all his great Goodness and manifold Mercies and Love through our Savior Jesus Christ, who is come to save the Souls of Men, having all Power in Heaven and on Earth.

Further we find ourselves indebted to be thankful to our late worthy Assembly, for their giving so good an Advice in these troublesome Times to all Ranks of People in Pennsylvania, particularly in allowing those, who, by the Doctrine of our Savior Jesus Christ, are persuaded in their Consciences to love their Enemies, and not to resist Evil, to enjoy the Liberty of their Conscience, for which, as also for all the good things we enjoyed under their care, we heartily thank that worthy Body of Assembly, and all high and low in Office, who have advised to such a peaceful Measure, hoping and confiding that they, and all others entrusted with Power in this hitherto blessed Province, may be moved by the same Spirit of Grace which animated the first Founder of this Province, our late worthy Proprietor, William Penn, to grant Liberty of Conscience to all its Inhabitants, that they may in the great and memorable Day of Judgement be put on the right Hand of the just Judge, who judgeth without Respect of Person, and hear of Him these blessed words, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you," &c. "What ye have done unto one of the the least of these my brethren, ye have done unto me," among which number (i. e. the least of Christ's brethren), we, by His grace, hope to be ranked; and every Lenity and Favor shown to such tender conscienced, although weak Followers of this our blessed Savior, will not be forgotten by Him in that great day.

The Advice to those who do not find Freedom of Conscience to take up Arms, that they ought to be helpful to those who are in Need and distressed Circumstances, we receive with cheerfulness towards all Men of what Station they may be—it being our Principle to feed the Hungry and give the Thirsty Drink;—we have dedicated ourselves to serve all Men in every Thing that can be helpful to the Preservation of Men's Lives, but we find no Freedom in giving, or doing, or assisting in any Thing by which Men's Lives are destroyed or hurt.—We beg the Patience of all those who believe we err in this Point.

We are always ready, according to Christ's Command to Peter, to pay the Tribute, that we may offend no Man, and so we are willing to pay Taxes, "and to render unto Cæsar those Things that are Cæsar's, and to God those Things that are God's," although we think ourselves very weak to give God his due Honor, He being a Spirit and Life, and we only Dust and Ashes.

We are also willing to be subject to the higher Powers, and to give in the manner Paul directs us;—"for he beareth the Sword not in vain, for he is the Minister of God, a Revenger to execute Wrath upon him that doeth Evil."

This Testimony we lay down before our worthy Assembly, and all other Persons in Government, letting them know, that we are thankful, as above mentioned, and that we are not at Liberty in Conscience to take up Arms to conquer our Enemies, but rather to pray to God, who has Power in Heaven and on Earth, for US and THEM.

We also crave the Patience of all the Inhabitants of this Country,—what they think to see clearer in the Doctrine of the blessed Jesus Christ, we will leave to them and God, finding ourselves very poor; for Faith is to proceed out of the Word of God, which is Life and Spirit, and a Power of God, and our Conscience is to be instructed by the same, therefore we beg for Patience.

Our small Gift, which we have given, we gave to those who have Power over us, that we may not offend them, as Christ taught us by the Tribute Penny.

We heartily pray that God would govern all Hearts of our Rulers, be they high or low, to meditate those good Things which will pertain to OUR and THEIR happiness.

The above Declartion, written by Benjamin Hershey, minister of the Menonist Church, and signed by a number of Elders and Teachers of the Society of Menonists, and some of the German Baptists, presented to the Honorable House of Assembly on the 7th day of November, 1775, was most graciously received.

C O P Y .

M.S.A. 789

DOMINION/OF CANADA.

MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917.

United States Citizen Questionnaire.

This Questionnaire is issued under the authority of the United States
Military Service Convention Regulations.

To - Mann, George Aaron
Address, --R.R.#1, Ridgeville Ont.
Date Mailed, ----

Date Returned, -----

Under the above regulations you are warned that:

1. If you fail to return this Questionnaire within 20 days of the date under "Date Mailed", you will be liable:
 - (a) To report yourself for Military Service immediately upon the expiry of that time;
 - (b) Upon summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years.
2. If you willfully return a false or misleading answer to any question submitted in this Questionnaire upon summary conviction you are liable to a term of imprisonment ~~XXXXX~~ ^{not exceeding} ~~XXXXX~~ one year
3. You may claim exemption under any of the nine grounds upon which such claims are based by the Military Service Act of 1917 and, upon the ground that you have enlisted or enrolled in the Military forces of the United States within the time limited by the Convention, but ~~the~~ ^{the} proof of such enlistment or enrollment shall lie upon you.
4. On the last page hereof is to be found a form for a Report for Military Service and a form for a Claim for Exemption. The appropriate form, whichever you elect to use, must be filled out and signed and dated by yourself. Upon return, the Registrar named hereunder will at once despatch to you a Receipt certifying that you have properly registered.

Address all communications to (Signed) C. Lesslie Wilson.
---- C. Lesslie Wilson, ----- Ontario Registrar, M.S.A.
Registrar at --- Toronto Ont.

No Postage is Required.

Questions to be Answered by all Registrants.

1. PRINT your name in full, --- George Aaron Mann.
2. Post Office Address, ----R.R.#1, Ridgeville Ontario.
3. If you are a rural resident give the location of your place of abode, i.e. Lot No. -- 7. Concession No. -- 7. Section No. -- 2. Township -Pelham. County, --Welland, Province. -- Ontario.
4. If the above Post Office is temporary, give permanent address, ---
5. Give your nearest ry., -- T.H.#B. Station, -- Fenwick.
6. Give your home address in the United States, -- Elkhart Indiana.
7. What is you (a) Age, -- 28, (b) Height, --Ft.-5- In.-7. (c) Weight, --164.
8. Give your complexion, -- Fair.
9. Color of your hair? -Light Brown. Color of your eyes? -- Blue.
10. What marks of identity, such as birth-marks, Etc, have you? -- None.
11. What was the date of your birth? Year, --1890. Month- Sept. Day, --24
12. If you are unfit in body or mentally, attach sworn statement describing in what manner you are unfit.

United States citizen Questionnaire,--2.

13. Are you a bachelor, widower, or married man? -- Married.
14. If married, give: (1) Date of Marriage---- Dec. 29, 1909.
 (2) Place of marriage,-- Elkhart Indiana.
 (3) Attach sworn copy of marriage Certificate.
15. Give names and ages of your children if any.----Viola Ruth Mann, 6 year
 Magdalena Elizabeth Mann, 4 years.
16. If divorced, give: (1) When,-- (2) Where divorce was secured,--
 (3) Present name and address of divorced wife.--
17. If widower, attach copy of wife's Death Certificate, and answer Question
 15 if you have children.
18. What is your permanent occupation or trade? --- Farm Laborer.
19. Give name and address of your present employer.-- A.J. Pettifer, Ridgevil
20. State exactly the nature of the work you are now doing.--General farm w
21. What is then salary or wage per week?-Fifteen Dollars.
22. If there are persons to the support of whom you are contributing state:
 Name. Address Age Relationship Money val.
 of your support
23. If you have any brothers in the Canadian or American Expeditionary
 Forces, state:

Name	Age	Unit	Canadian or American.
24. How many brothers have you?-- 4--, and state:			
Name	Address	Age	Occupation.
Tobias E. Mann	Elkhart Ind.	49	Invalid, Laborer.
David K. Mann	Gibson Ind.	42	R.R. mechanic.
Levi Mann	Elkhart Ind.	36	R.R. mechanic.
Rufus K. Mann	Elkhart Ind.	31	R.R. mechanic

25. Give the following information as to those of your brothers who have
 received exemption either in the United States or Canada:

Brother's name.	Name and No. of Local Board or Tribunal	Decision.
(None of them drafted to my knowledge)		

26. How long have you been continuously resident in Canada?-- 9 years.
 (12 years with the exception of 1 year.)

27. Attach sworn statement of what property or business in Canada you own
 or are interested in.---- None.

28. If it is mortgaged, give amount, and name and address of Mortgagee---

29. How much Life Insurance do you carry? --- None. Give the name and
 address of the company.

30. If you are a naturalized citizen of the United States, state:
 (1) Where you were born.--
 (2) What is your mother-tongue?--
 (3) When were you naturalized?-- (4) Where?--

31. If you claimed exemption anywhere in Canada under the proclamation of
 October 13th, 1917, say at what Post Office you signed your claim for
 Exemption.-- No.
 Give decision of Tribunal.-----

32. If you registered in the United States under the Selective Military
 Service Law, state:
 (1) Name of Local Board.----
 (2) Your Serial Number.---- (3) Your Order Number.----
 (4) Your classification.----- (5) The result of the Medical Examinati

33. If you claimed Exemption under the United States Law, what was the
 Decision? Decision? -- No.

34. If you have enlisted voluntarily or been drafted in the United States Army give: No.
 (1) The Unit of enlistment.---
 (2) Place of enlistment.---
 (3) Regimental number.---
35. If you registered with a United States Consul in Canada between July 30 and September 27, 1918, under the Canadian-American Convention, give:-No
 (1) Name and address of Consul. --
 (2) Did you report for service?--
 (3) Did you claim Diplomatic Exemption?--
 (a) Results of your claim for exemption.
36. Did you vote at the last Dominion Election? December 17, 1917. -- No.
 Where did you vote?-----
37. Where did you register under the Canadian man-power Registration Act?--
 (Hansler's School, Sec. #2, Pelham Twp., Welland Co., Ont.)
38. Give the number of your Certificate of Registration under the Man-power Act.-- 74 - 231 - 50 .
39. Have you ever been medically examined by a Canadian Military Med. Board?
 -- (No)
 If so, where?----- About what Date,---- And into what medical category were you put?-----
40. If you desire to join the Canadian Army, sign this Report for Service.

CANADA. Serial Number.
 Military Service Act, 1917. U.S. 4764 B.R.
REPORT FOR MILITARY SERVICE.
 United States Citizen.

I hereby report myself for Military Service in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. I will report myself for duty when called upon by notice mailed to me, addressed to the Post Office address given in Question 2 of this Questionnaire.

Date.----- -----
 Witness----- Signature of the man.
 Address,-----

41. If you desire to claim exemption from service in the Canadian Army, sign the following form and mark with an X the ground upon which you base your claim, such claim to be supported by documents attached to this Questionnaire. An employer or near relative of the man may attach any documents which he has in support of this claim to this Questionnaire, or mail them separately to the Registrar named on the first page hereof.

CANADA. Serial Number.
 Military Service Act, 1917. U.S. 4764 B.C.
RECLAIM FOR EXEMPTION.
 United States Citizen.

I hereby make application for exemption from Military Service in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and exemption is claimed for the reason marked with a cross in the space below.

1. Importance of continuing employment in habitual occupation.	X	6. Serious hardship owing to exceptional domestic obligations	X	X
2. Importance of employment as--- for which he has special qualifications.		7. ill health or infirmity.		
3. Importance of continuing education or training.		8. Adherence to rel. Denom. known as. Men. of which the articles of faith forbid Com. serv. (all Mil. Serv.)		X
4. Serious hardship owing to exceptional financial obligations.	X	9. Of Alien enemy birth,--- <i>added</i>		
5. Serious hardship owing to exceptional business obligations.		10. Enlistment or enrollment in the United States Army,---		

Date -- Oct. 21, 1918.
 Witness, --- S. E. Oriman.

--- George Mang, ---
 Signature



House of Commons
Canada

Galt, October 21st, 1918.

Rev. S. F. Coffman,
Vineland, Ont.

Dear Mr. Coffman:-

I am enclosing copies of letters which were sent to me by the Central Appeal Judge, Mr. Justice Duff. This was in reply to my letter as to the position of the Mennonite people. I trust that this will give you the information which you desire.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

F. S. Scott

Recommendations to
M. R. R. Co. after meeting with
Mr. Weichel, at Waterloo, Oct 29, 1918

We express gratitude for the response
already manifested, toward the appeal for funds
for the objects of this organization.

The Committee had an interview with
Mr. Weichel, and received a hearty
reception and warm approval of the work of
the organization and helpful and timely
suggestions for our future guidance.

The matter of supporting the Merchant
Sealer's relief was encouraged, and
considered that it would be advisable to
include money collected for this special
object, with other funds placed in the hands
of the Treasurer as a part of the Memorial
fund for the Government. Money collected
for the Sealer's relief should be
especially specified as such when sent
to the Treasurer.

The Minister of Finance has had
correspondence with some of our people regarding
the purchase of Victory Bonds. Understanding the
voluntary attitude of our people & concerning military matters
he recommends the setting apart of any bonds purchased
by our people for the sole use of purchasing food supplies

in Canada. We recommend that this proposition
be considered and, if possible to
arrange that money thus loaned to the Government
be used only for such and other domestic uses,
that it may be left optional with our people
to purchase Bonds.

For allow the Veterans
Fund for our Memorial fund
Suggestion
Meeting of
24th of Oct
1918

We also recommend that the possible purchasing of Bonds be not considered as part of the Memorial donation, nor allowed to interfere with the usual contribution to the Memorial Fund; The Memorial Fund being a gift of gratitude and the Bonds a purely business transaction which should lend itself to a means of larger giving, rather than detract from it.

Conditions as such at the present time, owing to agitation ^{in the message in public} of the question of the special exemptions enjoyed by our people, there it is incumbent upon us to make some special effort to show that we are assuming in some larger manner the responsibilities of ministering to the needy & suffering, and we believe that some special effort be made or plan be devised to lay before our people the actual situation in order that they may be aided in giving largely of the means endowed upon us by God and at the same time give freely and gladly.

It is the opinion of the Sect, U. P. and of Mr. Reichel that pressure will be brought to bear upon Parliament to take away the exceptional privileges granted to us by the Government and that it might be advisable for us to petition the Government to restore the special taxation formerly levied upon our people in times of war in lieu of Military Service. They feel, however, that if our people rise to the present occasion in making a liberal donation and supporting the Government in the way that is specially provided with the present Bond issue, that the present favors of the Government may be safeguarded for our people. We recommend

the consideration of this matter.

It is the opinion of Mr. Weichel that a small deputation from our people again wait upon the Premier and again lay before him our plea for the amendment of our privileges under the Government of Canada and our expenses during these trying times, at the same time presenting to him the special gift to the Government as an expression of our appreciation of our past privileges and asking of him the favor of placing the funds in the hands of those who would use them as specified by the donors. This method, Mr. Weichel believes, would be the most direct way of presenting the gift and pressing our request with the Government.

We advise that a special meeting of the Executive Committee be called, or, if considered advisable, the whole Committee be assembled at the first convenient point and these matters be considered and brought before our people at once. Since the Loan will be placed for subscriptions on this coming Monday.

Respectfully,

The Committee,
 Thomas Reesor,
 W. H. Heise
 S. F. Johnson

the consideration of this matter.

It is the opinion of Mr. Weichel that a small deputation from our people again wait upon the Premier and again lay before him our plea for the consideration of our privileges under the Government of Canada and our experiences during these trying times, at the same time presenting to him the special gift to the Government as an expression of our appreciation of our past privileges and, asking of him the favor of placing the funds in the hands of those who would use them as specified by the donors. This method, Mr. Weichel believes, would be the most direct way of presenting the gift and pressing our request with the Government.

We advise that a special meeting of the Executive Committee be called, or, if considered advisable, the whole Committee be assembled at the first convenient point and these matters be considered and brought before our people at once. Since the Loan will be placed for subscriptions on this coming Monday.

Respectfully,

The Committee,

Thomas Reesor,

Mr. Heise

S. F. Johnson

Copy

Markham, Ont., Oct. 22nd. 1918.

The Minister of Finance,
Ottawa,
Ont.

Honourable Sir:-

I am informed that the Government of Canada offers 1918 Victory Loan Bonds to Mennonites with the assurance that the money thus realized will be used exclusively for the purchase of foodstuffs.

What pledge will be given that these moneys will be thus expended?

Are the foods, thus purchased, to be for civil or military purposes?

May I have a copy of the form of certificate which will be issued or excerpts therefrom?

Sincerely,

Moderator, Mennonite Conference of Ontario.

J. R. EBERSOL
 MANUFACTURER OF
**THE SPECIAL BAND CUTTER
 AND SELF-FEEDER**

MILVERTON, ONT., Oct 23 1918

S. F. Coffman,
 Vineland, Ont
 Dear Friend:-

Greeting in Jesus name to all who try to obey Him to a happy end. We are (thank God) all fairly well hoping you are all the same.

I thank you for your prompt kind answer of 12th inst. ~~As~~ We have yesterday sent our questionnaires to London, and have Claimed Exemption on No 8.

We have stroked off the word combatant and inserted ^{it to read} that our faith forbids Military service in any form.

I can see nothing in your letter to answer the almost last paragraph of my letter of 10th. regards to donating money to Government for war sufferers.

Will you kindly answer that at once?

Enclosed find clipping from a Stratford daily paper. I ask you to kindly think over it and let me know what you think about subscribing for Victory Bonds for such a purpose. I am afraid it would be almost like taking up non combatant service, but perhaps I do not understand it thoroughly so please advise at once.

I think if the Government promised to use the donation for war sufferers for nothing except for war sufferers, it would be far better to use it for that donation, than to use it for Victory Bonds in any form. Kindly ans at once as good as you

(2.)
can all these questions I ask you.

In regards to ans of appeal of John Roes
from Central Appeal Judge, I think that
ans. is very good and strong in our
favor. I wish all our Brethern would recieve
same.

Please ans very soon.

Remember us in your earnest prayers, as
I hope to do for all needfall, but in great
weakness.

Respectfully Yours,
J. R. Bersol,

Milverton, Ont. Oct. 23, 1918.

S. F. Coffman,
Vineland, Ont

Dear Friend:

In regards to my other letter of this morning, the mail train came when I was closing your letter and in the hurry I forgot to enclose the clipping of Stratford paper, so I will enclose it now and send it, hoping it will not arrive too late for you.

Respectfully Yours,
J. K. Ebersole.

Vineland Ont., October 24th 1918.

John R. Ebersole,
Milverton Ont.

Dear Brother:- Greeting in the name of Him whom we love because He has redeemed us from death by His own blood on the cross.

Your letter of the 23rd instant to hand. I must apologize for not having answered your former letter more fully. I had overlooked the last part of the letter concerning the contribution to the Government, and that was indeed important. First, the Government has not asked us for the contribution.- it is a free-will offering on our part, and we have inquired how it might be given, and have learned that the Government itself is doing no charitable work and controls no charitable organizations. Were we to place the funds in the hands of the Government it would be given to some organizations that are doing the charitable work which we would choose to support by our means. All the funds that are to be collected by our organization would be under the control of our organization and could only be expended as we would choose and for the purposes for which they were given by the churches. If there would be funds collected that would be placed in the hands of the Organization without specifying for what special purpose they were given it would be the duty of the officers to say what such funds should be used for. If the funds are given to the Government it would be with the understanding that the Government would place them all where they belong and use them for no other purpose. This would be controlled by asking each organization that receives funds from the Government to acknowledge the receipt to the Treasurer of our Organization. In case the Government desired us to make use of the Funds they would be placed in the hands of Organizations that would make the proper use of them. We can be assured that all such money will be used as it should be as far as we are able to control the use of them.

Regarding the purchase of Bonds by our brethren, under the offer that is made by the Department of Finance, the matter was considered by a committee of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization on the 22nd Inst, at a meeting in Waterloo. I have just prepared a copy of the report of this Committee and forwarded it to the Executive Committee. For the sake of giving you the information I will enclose a copy of the recommendations to the Executive Committee. This will help as much as any explanation that I could give. It is my own opinion that it may be well for our people to accept the proposition that the Government makes. It is, in a special way, an invitation if not a command from the Government to loan them money. If it were a law passed by the Government that all citizens should purchase bonds there would be no way for us to avoid this matter. "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's." If the Government gives the assurance that such money will be used only for purchasing food stuffs or other domestic uses they will fulfill their pledge. It seems like engaging in non-combatant service, but it is not personal service. It is the same as selling our grain or cattle or pork to the Government for use as it sees fit. Or, it is like saving flour or sugar so that the Government has more for the soldiers. We do not consider that as non-combatant service yet it is helping along by saving that the soldiers have more. With our money it is lending money instead of selling what we have. Our taxes go for direct military expenses. What we would loan in this case goes to help men to live and not to destroy them. We would not let men die for want of food even if they were soldiers. At the same time there is the question, "are we not helping them to destroy others? We are not doing it in spirit. The food will feed the sick and wounded and returning men as well as many enemies who are in prison. Our aim is to do good and not evil, and we render to the Government a service which it practically demands and for which it becomes responsible.

J. R. E. //2

There is some intimation that unless our people do something in the line of giving the Government aid at this time that there will be little hope of staying the tide of opposition that is rising against the special liberties that we enjoy when Parliament again meets or when the soldiers return home and get into power. We are being watched very closely. It may be that we will be obliged to pay an annual exemption tax or a special war tax and that previously amounted to \$25.00 each for every man between 16 and 60 years in times of peace and twice the amount in times of war. See the pamphlet enclosed. The Government would in that way exact a great deal more from our people than we would now give voluntarily as a token of our appreciation. In the loan that the Government asks they will pay for what is loaned. It would be no exacted amount and no drain upon our resources. If there are those who could not conscientiously take the bonds under the conditions they should bear with those who feel that they can accept them under the conditions given by the Government.

It seems to some of us that when there is a gift made to the Government in the shape of a memorial for past freedom that each brother should consider that in other times he would have been obliged to give fifty Dollars for each year of the war and for the four years he has been saved two-hundred Dollars by the favors of the Government. Each by that has been called and has been allowed to return home and work on the farm has meant a great deal to his home financially. He has earned money for the home besides saving his parents the cost of a hired man to take his place. At this estimate, it would be a very small thing for each brother to give one or two hundred Dollars as a gift to the Government, and it might be the means of saving the next generation many times that amount if the Government sees that we have really appreciated the favors that they have given to us. I hope that the donation to the Government for charitable purposes will be very liberal, and I hope too, that the proposition from the Government regarding bonds will not be turned down. But let each do as he feels that he should do before God to whom we are responsible.

According to my understanding, the application for Bonds will be so worded that it will call for bonds that the money may be used for food stuffs purchased only in Canada, or for other domestic uses. The bonds may be the regular form, but the application will indicate that they are special ones for the non-resistant people.

I hope that I have made this matter clear and that I may be understood as not favoring non-combatant service or the war or even the policies of politics. If we have some duties toward the Government as citizens we should fulfill them. If we may do these without having any wrong motive and not partaking in the wrong that others may do we are free to do them as free before our Maker and our Saviour. I am making a copy of the clipping and return to you the original. Thanking you for your information and praying for you and the brotherhood there that the Lord may lead you in all that you do and bless you with the richness of His love and grace, I am,

Yours in His fear and name,

Vineland Ont., October 24th 1918.

L. J. Burkholder,
Markham Ont.

Dear Brother:- Greeting.

Today I mailed you a copy of the report of our Committee meeting at Waterloo. I hope that you will find it satisfactory and that it may meet the approval of the Executive Committee. The one item, the subscription of our people to the present Bond Issue is a matter of some importance. I am not sure just how this question was brought before our people. It may have been through some correspondence with the Finance Department of the Government. As the Minister of Finance has intimated that they are willing to use the funds of our people as much as possible in a way that will be free from military service directly and in as much as they seem to desire a share of the funds of our people for Government uses, it becomes a question of whether we are willing to do what the Lord said, - "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." If the Government made a demand of us to buy the bonds and loan them the money we would not refuse it. Since they have made a private bid for the money, and arranged a plan for contributing to them in a manner that is not directly a support of the military establishment of the Government, may it not be advisable to give the support under the pledges that they are willing to guarantee?

The method of subscribing to this special contribution, I believe lies in the form of the application for the Bonds. The subscriber will apply for the bond and designate that it will be for food stuffs or domestic purposes. The Bonds may be issued in the usual form, but will be set aside for special purposes according to the nature of the application. If your committee decides on the recommendation, it can be taken up at once with the Department and arranged for with them.

The thumb-screw at the back of the machine is used to tighten the tension on the spring which draws the carriage, making it move more rapidly or more slowly. Keep it fairly strong. The little lever in the centre, back of the carriage is used to move the carriage very slightly to one side in order to retrace a heading and make it darker, or "Black-Faced." The lever at the right end of the carriage and at the back corner is used to stop the carriage a space or two before reaching the end of the line. Pulling it forward will release it for the balance of the spaces, but if you throw it back before moving the carriage to the right it will catch. I left it thrown forward, as it was of no practical use. The first lever on the right end of the carriage is used in releasing the rolls which hold the paper firm on the roll. Use it when you wish to insert a sheet and more than one sheet. Throw it back and insert the paper then throw it in place again. In removing the paper from the machine, you may take hold of it, and by a firm pulling motion revolve the roller and remove the paper readily. Or, you can move the spacing lever back until it releases the dog which engages the ratchet on the roller and pull your paper out without trouble, or you can remove it by turning the roller by hand. Any method will do and may be applied with either end of the paper, top or bottom, - turning the roller either backward or forward.

Your copy looked clean and neat and you will soon become an enthusiast and expert on the machine. The bill was discovered and its origin surmised. Thanks until properly compensated.

Yours

Baden Oct 24 / 18

Dear Brother in the Lord

Greeting in his name
 We are all well yet so far

Hoping you are the same. Influenza
 is making its appearance in our neigh-
 borhood so we have been spared so far
 there will be a funeral to morrow afternoon
 in the person of Simon Koltz the young Brother
 who was in the London Camp had the Flu
 and turned into pneumonia Died in a
 few days. there are many others sick
 yet. Further Brother Chr. J. Gehr from
 Tavistock was here to night - asking me
 about the Victory Loan that is coming
 on again what to do, so I thought I would
 write and ask you I did not here much
 about it yet Only what I seen in the
 Paper he said the Judge from Woodstock
 was at him several times and said
 that it was not fair for us to make

A donation Only and not getting
any Benefit of it: we should have
interest for our money the same as
any other people, and they would loan
the money for buying Food stuffs
Only and not to further the war
I would like to here from you and
have your advice Regarding the
same and Oblige

Yours in Faith
Chr Jasch
Baden

Vineland Ont., October 24th 1918

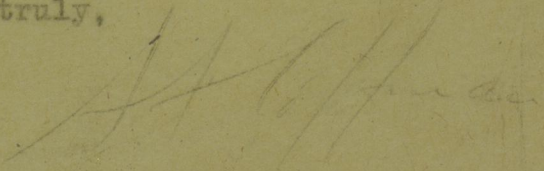
Hon. S. S. Scott, M. P.
Galt Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 21st instant to hand, with enclosures, for which accept thanks. The information is not exactly what we were desirous of knowing, and does not agree with the decisions of the Central Appeal Judge in the case of John Roes, of Brunner Ont., whose "Disposition of Appeal" was copied and a copy forwarded to you, and also in the case of Ezra Boshart, a copy of whose case is herewith enclosed. Both of these men are members of the Amish Mennonite Church in Ontario, and we were desirous of knowing whether these cases are now the final decision of the Central Judge with regard to the status of all Mennonites in Ontario.

A committee of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization had a meeting during this week and waited upon Mr. W. G. Weichel in Waterloo in order to secure some necessary information. I am enclosing a copy of recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Organization and action will likely be taken on the matters referred to therein. We would indeed be glad if an understanding could be had with the Minister of Finance on these matters.

Yours very truly,



Vineland Ont., October 24th, 1918.

Mr. G. G. Weichel,
Waterloo Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed, Please find copies of the documents sent to several of the Amish brethren regarding their application for exemption. These are the answers to their appeals to the Central Appeal Judge.

A letter from Mr. Scott enclosed a brief of the case of a certain Christadelphian, and was cited as a possible method of the treatment of the Mennonites, but the person who sent the paper was possibly not aware of the the decisions rendered in these later applications by the men in the Amish Church. I hope that the decisions will stand, since it is the only classification possible of the members of our Church.

A copy of the decision of the Boshart case will also be forwarded to Mr. Scott. I wish to send him a copy of the results of our meeting at Waterloo.

Thanking you for your interest in our case and for the many favors granted us, I am,

Yours truly,

Petersburg Oct. 25. 1918

S. J. Goffman

Wineland

Dear Bro. Greeting:—

We have some difficulty with some of our brethren who are in the military age.

Bro. Harley Snyder who was an adherent until May 26th 1918 when he united with the church has received notice to report for duty. I will write you what was sent to him. "Your leave of absence is cancelled and you will report for duty."

"This order is sent you on instructions from Headquarters". Bro. Snyder had reported before but was granted leave of absence because he was a Mennonite. I would be very much pleased if you could give me some advice as soon as convenient on this. He is to report on Oct. 31st. We are all well hoping this will find you the same.

Yours in the Faith

Manasseh Hallman

Petersburg

Vineland Ont., October 25th 1918.

Manassch Hallman,
Petersburg Ont.

Dear Brother:- Greeting.

The message over the Phone this morning was rather indistinct and unsatisfactory, but, having had some intimation of the subject under consideration, I was able to Guess pretty well what you said and what you wanted to know.

Brother John R. Ebersol of Milverton, and Amish brother, had sent me a clipping from a Stratford paper stating the proposition of the Government to the Mennonites. We also had a meeting of a special Committee of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization at Kitchener on Tuesday of this week that had taken under consideration the matter of the Loan to the Government as proposed by the Minister of Finance.

It was the opinion of the Committee that it would be well for as many of our people as felt that they could conscientiously do so and were able, to subscribe to the Loan, under the conditions that are to be granted for the Mennonites and others of like faith, that the money will be used solely for the purchase of foodstuffs in Canada, and that it will not be used for any war work or munitions. If it would be possible to add to the conditions that the money is to be used for foodstuffs and other domestic uses in Canada, it would be better.

I understand that the conditions are to be made in the Application for the Bonds, and the person who makes the application may have those conditions written in. In the case of the Bonds, I do not know just how the form will be, but it may be arranged there also, to show that the money will not be used for munitions and direct military uses.

There are some reasons why our people should give the assistance that the Government is asking from our people. We have done nothing for the Government. They now come making a special request, and asking this favor to loan them the money, and say how they will be careful to use it. They need the funds to sustain the work of the Government, and it becomes us to render under to Caesar the things that are Caesars. The money has the superscription of the Government. We give them what is theirs. If they made it a law that all should give, could we avoid it? If they come to us and ask it is it not equal to a demand? In case we do not give them the assistance they ask, can we expect them to continue the favors that they have given us in the years that are past and even in these days, when we know that they have gone almost beyond their jurisdiction to give our boys their freedom? There is an intimation that if our people do not at this time render assistance under these special conditions that there will not be much effort made on the part of the Government to stay the opposition to the present laws and all of our privileges be cancelled by those who have found fault with our special liberties.

Besides the bonds, our people should be prepared to give very largely to the Special Fund to be given to the Government as a token of the appreciation of our favors. I hope that each will feel that he is more willing to pay from \$25.00 to \$50.00 a year for the duration of the four years of war and do it for charitable purposes than he would have been to pay it to the Government as a fine for his privileges of exemption. That is the rate that I feel all who are able should use as a standard of their gift to the Government. A large amount is needed for relief work and we should give our share.

Regarding the Shantz brethren, let them report by letter that they are still at work on the farm and that they are still members of the Church, and ask for further extension of their leave of absence.

yours in faith,

Handy copy of Report of Committee to Executive Committee of Organization, Amish, by John Ebersol

Vineland Ont., October 25th 1918.

John Horsch,
Scottsdale Pa.

Dear Brother in Faith:- Greeting.

Some time ago there appeared in some of our Canadian papers, reports and articles that have been discreditable to our Mennonite people in the West, particularly to the Russian Brethren. It is reported that they are settling in colonies, that they are organizing and maintaining their own schools and that they are opposed to all English institutions in their vicinities and allow no English taught in their schools. This claim seems to be that they are perpetuating the German language and their own customs and not becoming Canadianized and therefore are not an advantage to Canada as citizens.

On account of these adverse opinions of these brethren there is being stirred up considerable opposition to allowing our brethren from the United States the privilege of settling in Canada, and there is some intimation that the privileges that we have thus far enjoyed, the privilege of exemption from all military service may be removed from the statutes of Canada and our people played on the same plane as others, regardless of our religious convictions.

I would be glad, if it is in your power, to have you ascertain to what extent the Russian brethren in the West are living in closed settlements, to what extent they are maintaining their own public schools, whether there are any schools among them that entirely exclude the English language, and to what extent they are making efforts to perpetuate the German language among themselves for the sake of preserving their peculiar faith. Are there any congregations among them that use some English in their services? Are there any that use all English services? If they use German entirely, is there any special reason why they continue to do so? If you cannot give me this information, or if the Editor of the Rundschau cannot do so, will you please direct me to some one with whom I may conduct correspondence in English who can give me this information.

It would be a matter of interest to me also to have some information regarding the Hutterites who have recently settled in Canada. I believe that there are some who have come across the line recently on account of the persecutions they have had in Montana, and it has been said that their religious liberty has been guaranteed them there. When did they come to Canada? What is the address of their leader? From whom did they get their privileges? Will they continue their community life in Canada? What privileges did the United States Government grant them at the time of their recent interview with the Government? Did the Canadian Government grant them total Exemption from Military Service?

Some of this information I have been trying to get from different sources, but have failed to do so. Our people here have so far been allowed freedom from service but under different conditions. The situation is somewhat complicated. It is possible that another meeting with the Government will be necessary to lay before them the actual situation and we would like very much to have all the definite and exact information possible at that time.

This leaves us in usual health, thanks to the Lord. Hope you are all well. Regards to your family.

Yours in faith,