

Devonshire.

[L.S.]



GEORGE the FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To all to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same may in any-wise concern—GREETING:

A Proclamation calling out the men comprised in Class 1 as described by the Military Service Act, 1917

The Deputy Minister of Justice, Canada

WHEREAS it is provided by our Militia Act of Canada, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, chapter 41, Section 69, that our Governor-General of Canada in Council may place our militia of Canada or any part thereof on active service anywhere in Canada, and also beyond for the defence thereof, at any time when it appears advisable so to do by reason of emergency;

And Whereas that part of our militia of Canada known as the Canadian Expeditionary Force is now engaged in active service overseas for the defence and security of Canada, the preservation of our Empire and of human liberty; and it is necessary owing to the emergencies of the war to provide re-enforcements for our said Expeditionary Force in addition to those whose inclination or circumstances have permitted them to volunteer;

And Whereas by reason of the large number of men who have already left agricultural and industrial pursuits in our Dominion of Canada in order to join our Expeditionary Force as volunteers, and by reason of the necessity of maintaining under these conditions the productiveness or output of agriculture and industry in our said Dominion, we have determined by and with the advice and consent of our Senate and House of Commons of Canada that it is expedient to secure the men so required, not by ballot as provided by our said Militia Act, but by selective draft; such re-enforcement, under the provisions of the Military Service Act, 1917, hereinafter referred to, not to exceed one hundred thousand men;

And Whereas it is accordingly enacted in and by the provisions of an Act of our Parliament of Canada, holden in the 7th and 8th years of our reign, and known as the Military Service Act, 1917, that every one of our male subjects who comes within one of the classes described and intended by the said Act shall be liable to be called out on active service in our Canadian Expeditionary Force for the defence of Canada, either within or beyond Canada; and that his service shall be for the duration of the present war and demobilization after the conclusion of the war;

And Whereas the men who are under the provisions of the said last mentioned Act, liable to be called out, are comprised in six classes of which Class 1 is, by the provisions of the said Act, defined to consist of all our male subjects, ordinarily, or at any time since the 4th day of August, 1914, resident in Canada, who have attained the age of twenty years, who were born not earlier than the year 1883, and were on the 6th day of July, 1917, unmarried, or are widowers but have no child, and who are not within any of the following enumerated

EXCEPTIONS:—

- 1. Members of our regular, or reserve, or auxiliary forces, as defined by our Army Act.
2. Members of our military forces raised by the Governments of any of our other dominions or by our Government of India.
3. Men serving in our Royal Navy, or in our Royal Marines, or in our Naval Service of Canada, and members of our Canadian Expeditionary Force.
4. Men who have since August 4th, 1914, served in our Military or Naval Forces, or in those of our allies, in any theatre of actual war, and have been honourably discharged therefrom.
5. Clergy, including members of any recognized order of an exclusively religious character, and ministers of all religious denominations existing in Canada at the date of the passing of our said Military Service Act.
6. Those persons exempted from military service by Order in Council of August 13th, 1873, and by Order in Council of December 6th, 1898;

And Whereas it is moreover provided by our said Military Service Act that our Governor-General of Canada in Council may from time to time by proclamation call out on active service as aforesaid any class of men in the said Act described, and that all men within the class so called out shall, from the date of such proclamation, be deemed to be soldiers enlisted in the military service of Canada and subject to military law, save as in the said Act otherwise provided; and that the men so called out shall report and shall be placed on active service in the Canadian Expeditionary Force as may be set out in such proclamation or in regulations; but that they shall, until so placed on active service, be deemed to be on leave of absence without pay;

And Whereas it is also provided by the said Act that at any time before a date to be fixed by proclamation an application may be made, by or in respect of any man in the class to be called out, to one of our local tribunals, established in the manner provided by the said Act in the province in which such man ordinarily resides, for a certificate of exemption from service upon any of the following

GROUNDS OF EXEMPTION:—

- (a) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he is habitually engaged;
(b) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he wishes to be engaged and for which he has special qualifications;
(c) That it is expedient in the national interest that, instead of being employed in military service, he should continue to be educated or trained for any work for which he is then being educated or trained;
(d) That serious hardship would ensue, if the man were placed on active service, owing to his exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position;
(e) Ill health or infirmity;
(f) That he conscientiously objects to the undertaking of combatant service and is prohibited from so doing by the tenets and articles of faith, in effect on the sixth day of July, 1917, of any organized religious denomination existing and well recognized in Canada at such date, and to which he in good faith belongs;

And that if any of the grounds of such application be established, a certificate of exemption shall be granted to such man.

And Whereas moreover it is enacted in and by the provisions of an Act of our Parliament of Canada holden in the 7th and 8th years of our reign, and known as the War Time Elections Act, that certain persons thereby disqualified from voting, with such of their sons as on polling day are not of legal age, shall be exempt from combatant military and naval service;

And Whereas it is further provided by our said Military Service Act that applications for exemption from service shall be determined by our said local tribunals, subject to appeal as in the said Act provided, and that any man, by or in respect of whom an application for exemption from service is made, shall, so long as such application or any appeal in connection therewith is pending, and during the currency of any exemption granted him, be deemed to be on leave of absence without pay;

And Whereas our Governor-General of Canada in Council has determined to call out upon active service as aforesaid the men included in Class 1 as in the said Act and hereinbefore defined or described;

Now Therefore Know Ye that we do hereby call out the said Class 1, comprising the men in our said Military Service Act, 1917, and hereinbefore defined or described as to the said class belonging, on active service in our Canadian Expeditionary Force for the defence of Canada, either within or beyond Canada, as we may, in the command or direction of our Military Forces, hereafter order or direct.

And we do hereby strictly command, require and enjoin that each man who is a member of the said class shall, on or before the 10th day of November, 1917, in the prescribed form and manner, report himself for military service, unless application for his exemption shall then have been made by him or by another person entitled to apply on his behalf; wherein our loving subjects, members of the said class, are especially charged not to fail, since not only do their loyalty and allegiance require and impose the obligation of careful and implicit obedience to these our strict commands and injunctions, but moreover, lest our loving subjects should be ignorant of the consequences which will ensue if they fail to report, within the time limited as aforesaid, we do hereby forewarn and admonish them that any one who is hereby called out, and who without reasonable excuse fails to report as aforesaid, shall thereby commit an offence, for which he shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years with hard labour, and he shall nevertheless, if we so require, be compelled to serve immediately in our said Expeditionary Force.

And we do hereby proclaim and announce that for the greater convenience of our subjects, we have directed that prescribed forms, for reporting for service, and for application for exemption from service, may, at any time on or before the said 10th day of November, 1917, be obtained at any post office in our Dominion of Canada; and that reports for service and applications for exemption from service, if obtained at any of our said post offices and properly executed, shall be forwarded by our postmaster at the post office from which the same are obtained to their proper destination as by our regulations prescribed, free of postage or any other charge.

And we do further inform and notify our loving subjects that local tribunals have been established in convenient localities throughout our Dominion of Canada for the hearing of applications for exemption from service upon any of the statutory grounds, as hereinbefore set out; that these our local tribunals so established will begin to sit in the discharge of their duties on the 8th day of November, 1917, and that they will continue to sit from day to day thereafter, as may be necessary or convenient, at such times and places as shall be duly notified, until all applications for exemption from service shall have been heard and disposed of; also that men belonging to the class hereby called out who have not previously to the said 8th day of November, 1917, reported for service, or forwarded applications for exemption through any of our post offices as aforesaid, may make applications in person for exemption from service to any of our said tribunals, on the 8th, 9th or 10th day of November, 1917.

And we do hereby moreover notify and inform our loving subjects who are within the class hereby called out, that if, on or before the 10th day of November, 1917, they report themselves for military service, or if, on or before that day, application for exemption from service be made by them or on their behalf, they will not be required to report for duty, or be placed upon active service as aforesaid, until a day, not earlier than the 10th day of December, 1917, which will, by our registrar for the province in which they reported or applied, be notified to them in writing by registered post at their respective addresses as given in their reports for service, or applications for exemption from service, or at such substituted addresses as they may have respectively signified to our said registrar; and we do hereby inform, forewarn and admonish the men belonging to the class hereby called out that if any of them shall, without just and sufficient cause, fail to report for duty at the time and place required by notice in writing so posted, or shall fail to report for duty as otherwise by law required, he shall be subject to the procedure, pains and penalties by law prescribed as against military deserters.

Of all of which our loving subjects, and all others whom these presents may concern, are hereby required to take notice, rendering strict obedience to and compliance with all these our commands, directions and requirements, and governing themselves accordingly.

In Testimony Whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed. Witness: Our Right Trusty and Right Entirely Beloved Cousin and Counsellor, Victor Christian William, Duke of Devonshire, Marquess of Hartington, Earl of Devonshire, Earl of Burlington, Baron Cavendish of Hardwicke, Baron Cavendish of Keighley, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter; One of Our Most Honourable Privy Council; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order; Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Our Dominion of Canada.

At Our Government House, in Our City of OTTAWA, this TWELFTH day of OCTOBER, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and in the eighth year of Our Reign.

By Command, Thomas Mulvey Under-Secretary of State.

Handwritten notes and numbers: 7, 8, 9, 10, See 5

Reason and Authority

Handwritten note: 10th day of Nov 1917

*Mennonites and Exemptions,  
and Conscientious Objectors.*

**MENNONITES ARE  
ONLY EXEMPT FROM  
COMBATANT SERVICE**

Liablie To Be Called at Any  
Time for Other Work.

STRATFORD, Nov. 29.—Two applications for exemption that came before the tribunal at the courthouse today were withdrawn by the applicants. They were Thomas Sayers and Daniel Stadelbauer. The latter was granted until January 10 to report. The members of the tribunal congratulated the young men on their action.

Judge Barron has sent out a circular letter to several Mennonites who had been granted exemption by the board, stating that according to the regulations they can only be exempt from combatant service, and are liable to be called at any time for other service.

**MENNONITES TO GIVE  
MILLION TO CANADA  
WITHOUT INTEREST**

How Conscientious Objectors  
of Manitoba Are Helping  
Victory Loan.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Winnipeg, Nov. 29.—The most interesting Victory Loan news to reach Winnipeg comes from Winkler, Man., where it is announced that Mennonite settlers in Southern Manitoba are raising one million dollars to be given to the Government without interest. They are conscientious objectors.

**HOW MENNONITES  
EXPLAIN STAND  
RELATIVE TO WAR**

Seems Some Probability  
Members of Sect Are to  
be Exempt.

*13 Buffalo Courier*

**PROMISE LOYALTY TO GOVERNMENT**

*Week ending Sunday  
Nov. 4-1917*

How Sect Originated in This  
Country as Real  
Pioneer.

On the eve of conscription, with the strong probability that the Mennonites, of whom there are many in Welland county, settlers in the townships of Humberstone, Pelham and Wainfleet, may be exempted on the ground of their peculiar religious belief, the explanation recently given out by the official Mennonite board for the Niagara district, is therefore of first-hand interest. The information given to The Courier's Niagara district correspondent is authentic, but is furnished anonymously. It also draws attention to the fact that although conscientious scruples prevents the Mennonites from going to war as actual combatants, that body will, in other lines of service, endeavor, in the language of the street, to do its bit. The manifesto states:

"The name Mennonite comes from Menno Simons, who lived in the days of Martin Luther. In those days of ecclesiastical controversy there were three great religious sects or parties in Europe, representing three great schools of thought. They were first, the Roman Catholics, who believed in the domination of the Pope; secondly the Protestants, active opponents of the Pope, who protested against his domination and maintained their protestations with the power of the sword; thirdly, the 'Anabaptists,' who believed in a complete separation of church and state, in the freedom of conscience and in a thoroughly non-resistant life. From this latter class of people there have come a number of churches, as the Mennonites, the Schwenkfelders, etc. Menno Simons united with them in the early part of the sixteenth century, and because of his great prominence in the church, his opponents nicknamed his people 'Mennonites,' and they have ever since borne that title.

### Suffered for Faith

“Our fathers of their faith. Many of them died martyrs, others were banished from their native or adopted countries, and finally a number of them found an asylum in America where, by invitation of William Penn, they settled in Pennsylvania, the first permanent settlement being in Germantown in the year 1683. Being promised liberty of conscience, they kept on coming to America at different times, rejoicing in the fact that here they found rest from persecution, where they could worship God according to the dictates of their conscience as directed by the Word of God.

“In common with all non-resistant people, we believe that the teachings of Jesus Christ and his disciples are such that Christian people ought not to have any part in carnal warfare of any kind or for any cause. But we are making no effort to enforce our views upon our government, or to dictate to the government what shall be its policy toward the enemies of our government, or even toward us, who cannot for conscientious reasons, have any part in the war.

“What we have tried to do is to make our exact position clear to the powers that be, and our wish is that we may be accorded a full liberty of conscience, no effort being made to impress our young men into any kind of service which their conscience forbids.

### Hard to Understand

“It is not hard to get persons to understand why the recognition of our conscience would exempt us from bearing arms, but why we should also be exempt from doing non-combatant service is more difficult to see. We shall endeavor to illustrate our position by calling attention to actual conditions: Our country is now at war. Its object is to overcome Germany, to ‘win the war.’ To accomplish this some things will be necessary. The immense fighting machine of the government must be gotten in superb shape, the instruments of destruction marshaled in the fray. To overcome the enemy it may be necessary to kill an immense number of Germans, to lay several hundred cities to waste, to reduce whole multitudes of people to starvation. To accomplish these results requires service along various lines. It takes gunners to direct the killing, men to supply the munitions, physicians and nurses to take care of the wounded, chaplains to keep up the courage of the down-hearted, and other men and officers in numerous other lines of service, combatant or non-combatant, in order to make the war a success. The great question for non-resistant people is not which of these lines of service is right and which is wrong, but is it right that Christian people should have any part whatever in bringing about the above-named results? If war is right, then it is right to serve in any of these lines of service; if wrong, then we should hold aloof from all of them. This, in short, is the position of Mennonites on the war question.

### Nothing in Common

“There is nothing in common between the attitude of Mennonites and that of the so-called ‘pacifists,’ who have been giving the government so much trouble. This is an attitude of opposition to government; ours one of submission. We teach our people to obey the law, ‘to be subject to principalities and powers,’ to pray for our rulers, to pay tribute, to contribute to the industrial, intellectual, social, moral and spiritual uplift of the community, state and nation.

“Where we are at times put in the light apparently of resisting the powers that be is when governments, not knowing our exact position on any question, ask us to do things which we believe the Word of God forbids. There will be no conflict, either real or apparent, between us and the government so long as our liberty of conscience is fully recognized. And whenever there is an apparent conflict it is never a matter of resisting the government, but simply a matter of standing by our convictions and suffering whatever punishment may be inflicted upon us.”

congregation; any person who has control? A. No sir.

Q. Each congregation is its own guide as to matters of belief and discipline? A. Yes, Your Honor.

Q. You think you should be exempt from Military Service, do you? A. Yes Your Honor.

Q. Why? A. Because others have been.

Q. Why do you think you should be exempted? A. The Statute says, I think, if you belong to a religious body that teaches you should not fight your fellow men—

Q. Have you a teaching to that effect? A. Yes sir; the New Testament.

Q. Peculiar to yourselves as a body have you any form or creed? A. No, the New Testament is our creed.

Q. Apart from the New Testament you have no form of creed? A. No sir.

Q. Do you believe in the Apostles' Creed? A. I never heard of that.

Q. That was a form of creed that was prepared about 1600 years ago? A. Yes sir. That was after the time of Christ.

Q. How do you arrive at your belief? A. From the New Testament.

Q. Do you know that all the churches have studied it? A. To a certain extent.

Q. Studied it prayerfully? A. Some of them.

Q. Why do they disagree? A. They don't study it enough.

Q. Starting with the largest church in the world, the Catholic Church. Do you think the Pope does not study the scripture? A. I don't know I am sure.

Q. Then the Greek Church; do you think they are wrong too? A. Yes.

Q. The Church of England recognize the King as the Head of the Church? Are they wrong too? A. I don't see from the New Testament how they can have the King at the Head of the Church, and be right.

Q. The Methodist Church has prayerful men at its Head. They don't arrive at the same conclusion from the scriptures that you do. Are they wrong also? A. The bible says "By your fruits you shall know them."

Q. You judge from the Methodist Church fruits they are wrong? A. Yes, sir.

A.—Yes sir.  
Q.—And the Presbyterians too? A. No, not in all things.

Q.—How much education have you got young man? Do you read and write? A. Yes sir.

Q.—Anything more? A. I have studied bookkeeping.

Q.—That does not help you religiously? A. I attended the Beamsville Bible School five winters.

Q.—What do you consider the Bible? A. The word of God. It is translated from the Greek. I can read Greek and teach Greek too, as well as anybody.

Q.—Do you honestly think you are

right in putting up your individual judgment against that of these learned men of the past centuries and present day? A. Yes sir. I think the New Testament teaches individually.

Q.—Who told you the Scripture said there should be no war? A. It does not say there should be no war, but it teaches against it.

Q.—In what way. A. In every way.

Q.—Do you read the Old Testament? A. Yes sir.

Q.—Do you believe that the Jews were the chosen people of God? A. They were at one time.

Q.—At the time of Moses? A. Yes sir.

Q.—And Joshua? A. Yes sir.

Q.—Joshua was a prophet of the Lord and engaged in war? A. Yes sir under the Lord's direction.

Q.—David was a good man and he engaged in war? A. Yes sir, under the Lord's direction.

Q.—How about the Kaiser? Is he engaged in war under the Lord's direction? A. No sir.

Q.—If the Germans invaded Canada would you not go out and protect your country until you received a revelation from the Lord? A. No sir.

Q.—You would let the Kaiser come in and conquer our country and put us under the Germans? A. Yes sir.

Q.—You would submit to that rather than fight? A. Yes sir.

Q.—Unless the Lord gave you special revelations? A. Yes sir.

Q.—Your self conceit has carried you away? A. No sir.

Q.—You put up your individual, uneducated opinion against the opinion of the rest of the educated world? A. They differ on it.

Q.—Take the Roman Catholic Church. They are a warring people. They are engaged in the war. Their leaders do not tell them not to go to war. The Greek Church is the next largest, their leaders do not tell them not to go to war. The Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and all these and their adherents are at the war and you say you know more than all them? A. No I don't. I did not say I did.

## REQUIRES REVELATION FROM GOD

**Before He Will Defend His Canadian Home Against Possible Invading Force of Germans—Appeal is Denied.**

The woes of a conscientious objector were aired before Appeal Tribunal No. 21, this city, and during the recital the young man in question stated, as others have done, that he would not take up arms against the Germans should they come to Canada unless he received a revelation from the Lord. However, it was decided that the young man would change his views after a few months of army life and his appeal was disallowed.

The following facts were brought out at the hearing, showing the stand taken by the young man.

Q. How old are you? A. 24.

Q. What do you do? A. Work on a farm.

Q. Where were you born. A. Saskatchewan.

Q. When did you come to this part of the country? A. 8 years ago. I have not been here all that time. I was back to Saskatchewan three years.

Q. What were you doing in Saskatchewan? A. Working on a farm.

Q. Is your father there? A. Yes sir.

Q. Is he a farmer? A. Yes sir.

Q. Your appeal is because you are a conscientious objector? A. Yes sir.

Q. To what church do you belong? A. The "Disciples of Christ."

Q. Is it an organized body? A. Yes sir.

Q. Where is its head? A. Christ is its Head.

Q. Who is the head in this country? A. We don't have a Head.

Q. You are a local body are you? A. There are more congregations than one in Canada.

Q. Is each congregation separate? A. Yes sir.

Q. They have no dependence on each other? A. No sir.

Q. You have no organization whatever in Canada? A. No sir.

Q. No person who is the recognized head? A. No sir.

Q. Have you any Head of your

## NO DESIRE TO BE EXAMINED

**Nor to Fight Either, Said Applicant at Exemption Tribunal**

*Frank White. Jan 14-1918*  
H. J. Williams, in Judge Winchester's exemption appeal tribunal on Saturday said he didn't want to be medically examined, much less join the army and fight. When asked by his Honor what was the matter with him he replied that he didn't know, but he once had chronic cancer. Williams objected to taking the Bible in his hand to be sworn. He claimed that he was a Christadelphian. "When were you immersed?" asked Judge Winchester. "November 23, 1917." "You were too late," replied his Honor, and sent him up for examination.

**Must Join Army.**  
F. F. Piton, an operator in a moving picture theatre, contended that people must have their amusement, even in war time. Another reason why he believed he should be exempted was that he had been married recently. However, the court thought otherwise, and Piton will don khaki.  
About a dozen cases were called in Judge Coatsworth's court on Saturday. The appellants failed to appear, and notice is being sent them that if they do not attend on Thursday next their cases will go by default.

# COURT-MARTIAL

Mennonite Archives of Ontario

## Two From Hamilton Were On Trial.

*How Times July 18/1918*

A general court-martial at Niagara camp was held yesterday, when six conscientious objectors were brought before the court. In this list of six the names of two men who were stationed in Hamilton with the 1st Battalion, 2nd C.O.R., appeared. Alfred Thomas Grimsly, who had refused to don the khaki, said he did not belong to any sect, but positively refused to perform military service because of his religious scruples. He said that he had worked in a canning factory in Simcoe for the past two years, but previous to that he had been a farmer. He is twenty-two years old. Albert Scott was the second conscientious objector. He refused to go on parade when ordered to do so. In his defense he said, "I disobeyed the military command because I prefer to obey my God rather than man." He added that no matter what punishment was meted out to him he would not serve in military uniform. "I belong to the Lord," he said, when he was asked about his religion. Scott claimed exemption as a farmer and produced a paper granting him exemption as long as he was employed as a farmer. This certificate was issued at Schonberg, Ont., on November, 1917. He was ordered to report for duty at the end of May, but had been in default for two weeks when arrested and taken to Niagara. He was informed by the court that such exemption as he had, had been cancelled by an order-in-Council.

Toronto Daily Star  
Wed. July 24, 1918

## A MENNONITE BISHOP ASKS SON'S EXEMPTION

Doctrine Is Against Resistance,  
He Says, But Judge Re-  
serves Decision.

Samuel Wideman, Bishop of the Mennonite Church in York County, appeared in Judge Masten's tribunal this morning on behalf of the exemption of his son, P. I. Wideman.

"Our doctrine is purely non-resistant and do not believe in taking up arms in any way," stated the bishop.

"Would you put a member out of your church, who did take up arms?" asked Judge Masten.

"I wouldn't like to say we would church them," replied the bishop.

"You believe then, that the thousands of soldiers who are defending their country at the front are consigned to eternal perdition?" asked Mr. Armstrong.

"Yes, that is our belief," replied the Bishop.

"To whom are you as Bishop responsible?" asked Mr. Armstrong.

"To the church."

Judge Masten then addressed the son. "Supposing the Germans were at the door of this room ready to break in and destroy everyone in this room, including the ladies present, do you believe that you ought not to resist them, although you might jump out of the window?"

"No, I don't believe in fighting them," was the candid reply.

Judgment was reserved in the case.

*Mennonites & Military Service Act*

# RELIGIOUS ORDERS HAVE STATUS FIXED

Only Men in Before  
October 13, 1917, Can  
Escape Service.

## DRAFT TREATY TERMS

Ontario Mennonites Not  
Exempt Under Military  
Service Act

*Mail Pencil July 27/18*  
As the status of men belonging to various religious denominations which were exempted under the Military Service Act has occasioned the tribunals and the military authorities much concern, a ruling has been issued from Ottawa governing the date when a man might join and still be regarded as having acted in good faith, so far as military service is concerned. The ruling states that men who joined any of these religious organizations subsequent to October 13, 1917, the date of the proclamation calling Class One men to the colors, cannot claim to benefit by their new association. All men who were bona fide members of these organizations prior to that date will therefore be able to claim exemption from military service on religious grounds. This ruling, it is stated, will have a marked bearing on the military future of a large number of men who have been joining the Mennonites of late. Attention has been called to the fact that certain branches of the Mennonites have greatly increased their membership during the past few months, but so far as the M.S.A. is concerned, none of these men will be regarded as bona fide members of that denomination, and will therefore be subject to the operations of the M.S.A. the same as though they had not joined. A further ruling from Ottawa touches the Ontario Mennonites closely, as it declares that they are not included among those Mennonites who were excepted under the original reading of the Military Service Act. Ontario Mennonites, therefore, must establish their claim for exemption on the grounds of conscientious objection, or lose them.

In order that married men of the ages of Class One, who have become widowers since the passing of the M.S.A., may understand their status under the Act, regulations have been issued to the effect that any who have become widowers since May 6, or who become widowers in the future, must register within ten days.

Vineland Ont., May 19th, 1919.

### Canadian-Born Affected.

Various points of interest in the Canadian Draft Treaty with the United States have been received locally, and any person who has a male friend or relative, Canadian-born, in the United States, would do well to inform them as to just what they may expect under the new exchange regulations. The orders state that within thirty days of the calling up of men in the United States of their particular age, the Canadians must either report for service, register, or return to Canada. Those who report in the States will be able to go before exemption boards in the same manner as though they were in Canada, but all who do this must solemnly agree to join the Canadian Expeditionary Force if exemption is refused them across the line. A prescribed form has been laid down, covering that point. The grounds for exemption across the line are practically identical with those here, with the exception that if the Canadian does not follow the regulations within the specified thirty days he will become automatically subject to the United States draft. Even if a man ignores the regulations and allows himself to come under the American draft, he will still be able to go before the authorities to claim exemption, and his future will then depend upon the decision of the American exemption courts. Canadians who wish to volunteer will be permitted to do so by applying to the British-Canadian War Mission, to a Consular office, or to any of the regular civilian recruiting organizations. In connection with the Draft Treaty, it is interesting to note that if the Canadian-born has taken out his first papers of American naturalization, and has gone no farther, he will be treated in the same manner as though he had not taken any steps to become an American. The question of marriage has nothing whatever to do with the convention between the two countries, which means that while the married men of Class One ages in Canada are not being called to service, a married Canadian of the same age in the United States would be subject to service when Americans of his corresponding age are called to the ranks. The fact that a Canadian joins the American army will not alter his citizenship, as he will remain a British subject unless he chooses to take out naturalization papers as well.

A fifth medical board of review has been appointed for the re-examination of men under the M.S.A. The personnel has been chosen entirely from Hamilton medical men, and the board will operate only in Hamilton.

### To Welcome Prince Arthur.

Col. H. C. Bickford, who returned yesterday from an inspection of the

regarding the Proposed  
to be to properly c  
Act. There seem to  
of the departments  
If this is the case  
rites? They are not  
They have supported

Niagara Camp, reports that steps are being taken to hold a big reception at that site for Prince Arthur of Connaught upon the occasion of his coming visit. Of particular interest on that occasion will be the review of the Polish recruits, of whom there are several thousand in training.

A draft from the Skilled Railway Troops has been scheduled to leave for the East shortly. According to the new arrangements, these troops will take the boat across the Bay and will have an opportunity of seeing their friends for a short time before entraining at Bayside Park.

Capt. D. J. Lane, chaplain of the Base Hospital, has made arrangements with Mr. Boris Hamburg, whereby, in company with others, he will furnish the next regular Monday evening's concert at the hospital. Under the direction of the chaplain, concerts of a high order are being arranged for the benefit of the men, and they are learning to appreciate his efforts in their behalf. Monday evening's entertainment promises to be unusually fine.

Authority has been granted for the appointment of Lieut. G. R. D. Farmer in connection with the A.M.C. training depot.

Capt. Euntun T. Pointon, of the 1st Depot Battalion, 1st C.O.R., Camp Niagara, has been transferred to militia headquarters, Ottawa.

Word has been received of the death in England of Second Lieut. H. K. Walker, of Fort William, formerly of Toronto, death being due to pneumonia. He was a son of Mr. R. E. Walker. The body is being brought home for interment.





# Non-Resistant Relief Work.

*Saturday Globe*  
**Quakers and Mennonites  
 Make Large Donation**

Attaching to it no sort of a "string," laying down no condition, the Non-Resisting bodies, such as the Quakers, the Mennonites and others whose consciences forbid them to wage war, have paid over to the funds of the Hostel for the orphans of soldiers, which is situated in Avenue road, the generous sum of \$15,000.

This supplements and rounds out the action of many of the members of these bodies, who went to the war zone as ambulance drivers and stretcher-bearers, to save life at the risk of their own.

Sympathy for this hostel, to which the princely sum named above has just been given, grows as people hear of it, and among recent smaller gifts was the cheque for \$25 sent by the Women's Institute of Pickering, in the hope that it might brighten life for the orphan of some brave soldier who died for his country.

**MENNONITE MEMORIAL**

*Hamilton Spectator*  
 To the Editor: It is common knowledge where the Mennonite tenets prevail that there is on foot a movement organized by the church of this persuasion, which would show their appreciation to the government for the wholesale exemptions which have been granted to their physically fit young men from the operations of the Military Service act, their appreciation to take the form of a money gratuity for these past favors.

The Mennonites in this proposal transfer their past and present attitude from one of a mere denominational concern on their part to one of principle on the part of the nation.

In these days, when we find it necessary to look beyond the mere act to the spirit which dominates it, one is constrained to analyze such an exceptional movement to ascertain the truth. Are we to understand that this religious body is desirous of showing its appreciation of a government which, by the instrument of militarism, the conscription of "men and still more men," has fought the good fight, or are we to understand the net sum of so many dollars is offered as a healing salve to their own consciences, hurt by the particular part they have refused to play in the great endeavor? I trust the government, before accepting the memorial, will satisfy itself as to the aim and purpose of same.

The nations for upwards of four years have been sending of their best in men and material to fight the greatest forces of combined evils history can record. The very foundations of our Christianity have been threatened, and for these full four years these people have drawn the mantle of their bigotry and exclusiveness more closely around their exempted bodies in a "holier than thou attitude," and the only part which this church has allowed them to play is one in which they have participated to the full in the profits which have come as a result of war. They have been too religious to fight, but not too religious to help in some department of government service, so long as the recompense helped to swell their bank accounts. The young men of all denominations have made the supreme sacrifice on Flanders fields, others are lying within the walls of our county jails because their conscience forbade them responding to the nation's call; but these people, with their strange ways and keen business instincts, propose by the donation of a miserable pittance of "filthy lucre" to buy their share in this world's movement.

**MENNONITES WOULD  
 EXPRESS GRATITUDE**

**Would Devote Fund of  
 \$60,000 to War Memorial  
 Purposes**

Members of the Mennonite sect in Ontario, for some months past, have been raising a fund to be given to the Dominion Government to be devoted to a memorial for war sufferers. Between \$60,000 and \$70,000 has already been contributed by members of the faith from different parts of the Province, and the amount is still growing. A meeting is to be held in Kitchener in a few days of the special committee which has charge of the collection, when a deputation will be named to go to Ottawa and present the money to the Government.

The Mennonites, being conscientious objectors to war, and having certain treaty rights, were largely relieved from combative service by the Dominion Government. While enjoying this exemption, they contributed to different patriotic funds. The money which is to be given to the Government was raised at the same time and ear-marked for war memorial purposes.

If the Mennonites feel in this matter they have acted a worthy part, there should be no need of a memorial to the government. "Virtue is its own reward." If, on the other hand, they now feel, since the war has been brought to a successful conclusion without their aid, they should like to have a part in the glories of the hour, they should be made to understand that the blood sacrifices entailed cannot be differentiated by any monetary consideration on the part of those who, by the power of the dollar, would secure a part in the honors of the day.

I am, yours truly,  
 CONSCRIPTION.



DATE OF REGISTRATION

CANADA REGISTRATION BOARD

SERIES NUMBER

1918

MONTH DAY YEAR

CARD FOR MALES

TO BE FILLED IN BY DEPUTY REGISTRAR

1. Name in full (surname last) ?

Address (permanent) ?

STREET AND NUMBER

RURAL DELIVERY OR POST OFFICE

TOWN OR CITY

PROVINCE

2. Age? Date of Birth? Country of Birth?

3. Race? Speak English (E) or French (F) ?

4. British subject? By birth? By Naturalization?  
If naturalized, Which year? What place?5. If not a British subject, to what  
country do you owe allegiance?

6. Single (S), Married (M), Widower (W), or divorced (D) ?

7. How many children under 16 years ?

8. Physical disabilities, if any ?

9. If registered under Military Service  
Act, what is your serial number ?

10. (a) Present occupation (if any) ?

(b) What is your regular occupation ?

(c) What other work can you do well ?

Length of  
experience in

(a)

(b)

(c)

11. If an employee, state employer's name

Address

Nature of business

12. Do your circumstances permit you to serve in the present national crisis, by changing your present occupation to some other for which you are qualified, if the conditions offered be satisfactory? (a) Where you can return home daily? (b) Away from home?

13. (a) Were you brought up on a farm? Until what age? (b) Have you worked on farm? How long?

(c) Are you retired farmer? (d) Can you handle horses? Drive tractors? Use farm machinery?

(e) Are you willing to do farm work? Where? During what periods?

I affirm that I have verified the above answers and that they are true

Signature of Registrant

## Procedure of Registration

On June 22nd every person residing in Canada, male or female, British or alien, of sixteen years or over, must attend one of the registration booths located in his or her district, and there observe the procedure explained below.

### Where to Register

Every person required to register has the privilege of registering at any of the public places provided for that purpose. The location of all such places will be specified in proclamations posted conspicuously.

The card shown in the illustration is a facsimile of the registration card for males. An advertisement showing the card for females appears in another paper.

Study the questions carefully so that you will be able to answer them promptly when registering. If you have any special qualification, or feel that your services would be more beneficial to the country in some other line of work, say so.

While all are compelled to register on Registration Day, it is not contemplated by the Government to force the sick, feeble and aged to turn out. If such persons will notify the Registrar prior to June 22nd of their inability to attend at a place of registration, an effort will be made to register them at home, provided the request is reasonable and justified.

Remember the Day—June 22nd—Remember the Hours—7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Register early and get your Certificate for your own protection.

### How to Register

The procedure of registration is simple. The questions upon the registration card can be answered very easily, but they must be answered truthfully and fully.

**Insulting The  
Mennonites**

Mennonite Archives of Ontario

It goes against the grain for a Waterloo County man to read the slanderous comments of the Unionist press against the Mennonites; a people who are among the very best citizens we have,—thrifty, industrious and whose word is as good as their bond.

Of late these sheets, whose patriotism is of the ingrowing variety, speak of our Mennonite friends, as undesirables. Why? Simply because they hate war, love peace and were exempt from conscription.

These people built up this fine county. If Canada had a few millions more of them instead of the polyglot population of the riff-raff of Europe which we are likely to have henceforth, it would be a blessing. These penny-a-line scribblers are infinitely inferior to the people they insult.

Did it ever occur to you that if all the people of this earth were Mennonites, there would be no wars?

*Esler - Ontario Journal - Jan 29 - 1919*

# STRAIGHT TALK

PLAIN DISCUSSION WEEK BY WEEK OF PEOPLE, POLITICS AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

(By ReLue.)

**Will Canada Remain Free?** Mr. Rowell made a speech in Parliament last week. He dealt largely with Canada's position in the Empire.

Just now I think most of us are more concerned with our own affairs right here in Canada. They surely need attention.

Mr. Rowell explained that the Prime Minister of Canada should have a seat in the Imperial War Cabinet. This cabinet would contain representatives from all parts of the Empire. This might be all right for the British Isles, but it would be a jug-handled arrangement for Canada. Our one lone representative wouldn't have much influence, or do you think our colonial tail could wag the Imperial dog? Hardly.

Judging from the questions asked by the members of Parliament, while the President of the Privy Council was speaking, this Parliament was just a little afraid that others might get too many fingers into our Canadian pie.

If Canada ever gives up her independence in matters of war, it will be a short step to the surrender of our right to conduct our other affairs, and we may wake up some fine morning to find all our orders given from London, England. Then there would be trouble. Canada must be left at least as free as she is now in the British Empire.

We cannot retreat from that position even to please the Imperialists of the City of Toronto, who are plotting to destroy Canadian Government.

Parliament should watch closely, yes, suspiciously, any suggestions of that kind that come from the City of Toronto or anywhere else.

**Hands off The Mennonites** We still hear much foolish talk about those admirable people, the Mennonites. Some people think they show their patriotism by criticizing these people who are opposed to the shedding of blood. At that the Mennonites could make out a first class case as Christians if they chose to quote Scripture at most of us and at some of our preachers, many of whom preferred the preaching of war to preaching the gospel.

When the Mennonites came to this country, it was understood that they would never be called to military service. They didn't come to Canada under false pretences. They have been first-class citizens; they have kept their part of the bargain; let us keep ours.

They did at least as good service by raising

wheat to feed the hungry nations as though they had gone out to kill.

Some of our legislators would like to see them leave Canada. They will wait many a year before they obtain immigrants equal to these. It is not likely that people will want to come to a country that treats its naturalization agreements as a scrap of paper.

Hands off the Mennonites.

**Restoring Harmony** Members of the Union Government talk of restoring harmony in this country. Let them begin by destroying, root and branch, the conscription law which is still being used for the jailing of defaulters. That would help a good deal. Conscription has served its purpose. The Unionists say it won the war, which is nonsense. The Liberals say it won the election, which is true. But the war and the election are over. So any way you take it, its usefulness is gone.

Then let's get rid of it right away. It has been a nightmare long enough,

"Rouse mit eem."

**Many Boys Still in Camp** The Government is still keeping many young men in camp at London and elsewhere. That looks like foolishness and unnecessary expense. Surely our war debt is big enough. The war is over and why these boys should continue to loaf about at London is more than I can understand, especially as they have useful work to do at home.

Besides that, they were conscripted only in order to help the men in France. At least, so we were told. The danger in France was over four months ago, so the reason disappears. Let the boys come home at once.

**Jail Sentences Reduced** Some defaulters under the conscription law were actually sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Yes Sir, that was in Canada. At last however, the authorities are beginning to come to their senses, though they have still a long way to go.

I am told that all long sentences will be reduced to two years, where the boys had no excuse (?) and to two months where they had a reasonable excuse for breaking the conscription law. Perhaps sanity will return to the Canadian people after a while.

MARCH 19, 1919