

of the existing Militia, together with those of the Volunteers, will pass to the new territorial forces, in which the men now belonging to both will be invited to enlist; but "toll," so to speak, will, it is hoped, be taken of the Militia to form the nucleus of the new supplementary reserves for the regulars, which, although trained upon an auxiliary ("citizen first and soldiers afterwards") basis, will in point of fact become part and parcel of the regulars. Moreover, by Section 33 of the proposed "Territorial and Reserve Forces Bill of 1907," Non-regular reservists will be liable (if they have consented thereto) to be called up for service without reference to a "Proclamation" or communication to Parliament, whenever warlike operations are "in *preparation* or in progress," provided that their services are required outside the United Kingdom. The provision of power to his Majesty to call up the reserves, quietly without Proclamation, in *preparation* for hostilities that appear to be imminent, is obviously a great advance in the direction of sound "peace strategy."

It is not intended that any but genuine ex-regular reservists shall at first be posted to fighting units, the others being utilised for the ammunition columns and for various non-combatant services. The non-regular reservists will be drafted into the combatant ranks, only when the waste of war has exhausted the supply of better-trained men. This is a wise arrangement. In the British Army the enlistment of mere lads into the regular service is now, as it always has been, inevitable; with the result that on mobilisation the number of effective "serving soldiers" falls in most cases far below the normal effective establishment prescribed in foreign armies even for units lying behind the frontier army corps. Thus, in our case, the reservists unfortunately outnumbering very greatly the "serving soldiers" disposable on mobilisation at home stations, it is very important that the former should be well-trained men. Later on, after the units have had time to "shake down," and to consolidate their fighting efficiency by experience before the enemy, it then becomes permissible