

say that the effort in my province has been very successful, indeed. Much has been said in regard to other sections of Canada, but I want to pay a tribute to my Acadian friends in Westmorland, New Brunswick, particularly for the manner in which they have enlisted. Westmorland, according to population, I believe, has given its full proportion of troops of both races. I went on public platforms and on tours holding open air meetings and inducing as far as I could, the young men of my own county to rally to the flag and do their part. I did not say to them: You should go. I left it to their consciences to decide as to how the matter appealed to them. I appealed to the upright, honest, intelligent young men of my county to determine for themselves whether they were going to wait for this coercive measure or whether they were going to volunteer. If recruiting were carried on in a proper manner, and if the matter were taken hold of in an intelligent way, and free from any political bias, I believe the young men of Canada would respond to the call and would put themselves on record in such a way that Canada would not be in danger of being told in future years that coercion had to be adopted to get the 500,000 men that were promised to the Allied Powers. It is my opinion, based on the information I have, that a splendid class of men would respond if the call were properly made by a united country and united parties.

I did not rise for the purpose of detaining the House at any length. I am convinced that a better, an easier and a more reasonable way to get men to go to the front and fill the gaps in the ranks would be to continue thoroughly and systematically the volunteer recruiting campaign. Many arguments have been used during this debate. There is nothing new left to bring to the attention of the House. Many things have been said in regard to the conscription of man power, the conscription of wealth, the conscription of resources and the levying of a tax on those who are best able to stand it for the purpose of carrying on this war. I am with those who have put themselves on record as being in favour of the wealth of this country bearing a large part of the financial burden of this war instead of handing it down to posterity by long term loans. Some hon. gentlemen have spoken of the United States coming into this war and have expressed the belief that probably the United States would furnish more men and that the demand upon Canada would

not be so great. I am not in sympathy with that view of the situation. I think Canada should send every man she can irrespective of what our neighbours to the south of us do. The more they send and the more Canada sends the nearer will be the ending of this great struggle. But, I do not see very much difference between the Americans going over to fill up the gaps in the Canadian lines than the Government going to the United States and getting money to pay our boys for fighting at the front. We get that assistance from them and we work hand in hand for the betterment of our soldiers and the betterment of the country generally. I have always had a very strong feeling that the financial arrangements in connection with the support given to the dependents of soldiers have not been upon a proper basis. I have always frowned upon the idea that the dependents of soldiers who have gone to the front to protect our homes, our property and our lives, should be forced to look to charity for a part of their support. Times without number the wives and dependents of soldiers at the front have come to my office, making inquiries of me as to the money coming to them from the Patriotic Fund, and when I would explain to them where they had to go to obtain it they absolutely resented the idea of going around from pillar to post and asking for a sum of money from the Patriotic Fund. I never thought it was a proper way of giving assistance, and it looked like seeking for charity. Now that the referendum has been defeated, and the Bill now before the House must soon become the law of the country, if we are going to conscript the young men of Canada to go and fight our battles by compulsion, we should, at least, sweep away any thought or idea that their dependents must look to charity for support. It was all very well—I would not say it was very well, but it was different—under the voluntary enlistment. Every man knew what was expected of him, what pay, separation allowance and Patriotic Fund allowance would be coming to him and his family. After having all this information and knowledge, he placed himself before the country as a recruit, to go forward in defence of his flag and Empire. This situation did not apply to him so strongly, to my mind, as it applies to the Government to-day, when they are passing the Military Service Bill, and going to force men to go to the front. When a man leaves his employment, throws up a good job, perhaps, and goes to the front, his dependents should not be forced to throw