

Those who have the adjudication of such cases have a difficult task to perform, but the above suggestion is the only one that seems to meet the case. The appropriate remedy, however, can only be had by legislation, but in this country there is no Parliament at present to enact it. It is said that in England the appropriate remedy will shortly be applied.

Some time ago *The Spectator* published a letter on this subject, in which the writer took the ground that any person claiming exemption on account of conscientious scruples against fighting or taking life, and thereby refusing to defend the country which protects him, is not entitled to the protection, benefits and privileges accorded to those who were prepared to defend their liberties. The strongest and best statement which we have seen on the subject curiously enough appears in a leading article in *The Christian*, the most prominent religious paper of England. The writer demands that those who thus refuse to bear the burden of citizenship should not only be disfranchised but should also be deprived of all protection from the law; that they are, in fact, "outlaws," using the term in its original sense. Being outside the law they cannot claim its benefits—they have logically and reasonably no right to claim protection against personal injury; and have no right therefore to appear as litigants in the courts, either as plaintiff or defendant. If they are really conscientious in their objections and are gifted with ordinary common sense they must see the reasonableness of this proposition.

It is time that all those who live in a country, and claim the protection and enjoy the privileges of citizenship, should in this matter and in all others of a cognate character realize their responsibility as well as their privileges.

The law is that those who "be adherent to the King's enemies in his realm, giving to them aid and comfort in the realm or elsewhere" (25 Edw. III., ch. 2), are guilty of high treason; and it will be remembered that a prominent citizen of the Empire was recently hung for a breach of the above statute. There are those in this country who have transgressed this statute, but have not suffered the fate of Sir Roger Casement. It is just as well, however, that they should be reminded that this old statute is still in force.