

"Before the introduction of conscription, not only did the profession furnish hundreds of volunteers from its ranks, but no class of men was more active in pointing out to others their duty to their country. In every county in the Province the lawyer was the willing horse that was worked almost to death in securing recruits. Week days and Sundays he went hither and thither from town to town, and in the back concessions from village to village. Wherever he felt he could do any good, there you would find him haranguing audiences large and small upon the necessity of each man doing his bit. By his own exemplary enthusiasm and willingness to serve he did much towards inspiring in others that same spirit of sacrifice that characterized Canadians as a whole. And when it was found necessary to pass the Military Service Act its enforcement fell almost exclusively upon the legal profession. It may be that our calling qualified us to serve upon the Exemption and Appellate Boards, but be that as it may, the fact remains that scores of lawyers and judges from one end of the Province to the other were engaged for weeks in endeavouring to determine who could best be spared from the army of young men who were willing to remain at home. There may be isolated cases, but I have yet to learn of a single instance where a lawyer or a lawyer's son claimed exemption under the Act.

"No less than 695 members of the Law Society enlisted in either the Canadian or Imperial army, and what meant as great a sacrifice by the profession was the large number of lawyers' and judges' sons who responded to the call. I understand no reliable statistics have been gathered in this connection but I believe I am safe in estimating the number at 600.

"The work of the profession in raising funds to prosecute the war did not end with their personal subscriptions to the war loans. Many of the local committees throughout the country obtained their most faithful workers from the local members of the Bar, who displayed a genius for organization which, up to their assuming these new duties, had never been suspected. While the individual canvassers received liberal commissions upon the subscriptions secured; the committeemen rendered their services free. There were meetings to be held, speeches to be delivered, hundreds of letters to write, reports to fill out, explanations to be made and snarls to unravel, and the poor lawyer was never expected to be so busy but that he could drop everything and take up any branch of this work that might be assigned to him. The success of the loan depended very largely upon the tact, patience and energy of these willing workers, who for weeks at a time devoted themselves to the supervision of the hundreds