

to send to the front *every able-bodied man of military age and without dependants whose Minister or chief will consent to his enlistment.*

In some Departments the draft upon the staffs of certain offices, of both Inside and Outside Services, has already been severely felt, and no further leave of absence can be granted, for the work of the Government cannot stop and it must have trained men to carry it on. But who may be spared and who may not is for the Ministers and superior officers to decide, and *no single able-bodied man of military age who has not sought leave to join the army has any claim upon the respect of his fellows in the Service.* He is a *slacker*,—there's no gentler word to suit his case and a much harsher one might be used.

It is the misfortune of civil servants to be very much in the public eye, and it is inevitable that the Service should be the target of much harsh criticism under conditions such as obtain at present. Words of Ministers in connection with the filling of Civil Service positions with returned soldiers are eagerly seized upon by ill-disposed persons as being (and they have even been distorted into actually constituting) attacks upon the men now in the Service. It is a cowardly and deplorable practice and there is but one way to stop it. That way is for civil servants to enlist in such numbers that the public will know that the Service has done its full duty and will turn a deaf ear to unjustifiable attacks.

The credit of the Service to-day is in the hands of its *young men*, but no small responsibility rests upon the *women*. If the women say "go," scores of young men will hesitate no longer. Were all the women of the Service, men, there would be hundreds more enlistments. The women who have the heart to face a foe in arms must have the courage to show slackers at home the measure of their contempt. Let the fair scorn the coward as well as honor the brave!

Upon the men who, by reason of age, physical disability or family or official ties, cannot don the khaki, there also rests a heavy duty. They, too, must spurn the slackers in their midst, must be ready to shoulder an extra burden of labor and must facilitate by every means in their power the enlistment of all who are fit. They must also substitute for pastimes and pleasures the responsible duties of local patriotic endeavour.

Upon all rests the duty of caring for the sick, the wounded and the dependants left behind,—a duty well done in the past but demanding a larger heart and a more generous hand in the future.

Making liberal allowance for all the classes of those who cannot join the army *there are yet hundreds of young men in the Service who are shirking their duty.* Are they asleep or are they "yellow"?

This is no time for hockey, basketball and bowling,—no time for theatres, dances and skating parties,—no time for ease and pleasure. It is a time of *war*,—a time for *giving*,—a time for giving money, for giving service, and, above all, for giving *self*.

The call rings out: the question confronts you: your honour is at stake! Young men of the Civil Service, *what will your answer be?*