

In paragraph 10, "The militia shall consist of all male inhabitants of Canada of the age of 18 years and upwards, and under 60."

In paragraph 11 it was provided that this militia was classified into four (4) classes: 1st, unmarried, or widowers without children from 18 to 30; 2nd, ditto, ditto, from 30 to 45; 3rd, from 18 to 45 who are married or are widowers with children, and, 4th, from 45 to 60.

In para. 78, the officer commanding any militia district or division, or the officer commanding any corps of active militia may upon any sudden emergency, invasion, or insurrection, or immediate danger of either, call out the whole or any part of the militia within his command until the pleasure of his Majesty is known.

Para. 79 provides that his Majesty may call out the militia or any part thereof, for active service, either within or without Canada, at any time when it appears advisable so to do by reason of war, etc., and provision is made for service for one year, or any longer period that his Majesty appoints.

Now, what do we find in the "subterfuge" Act of 1906? As I read the Act, from a lay point of view, it would seem that the Government of that day, instead of retaining power in its own hands to judge of an emergency and call on the classes of the population as they may deem wise, took refuge behind a clause which empowers them to make regulations, and that it is necessary to call Parliament together to adopt these regulations for putting the Act into force. If this be the true interpretation, is it not in reality an extinguishing in 1906 of the spirit of military obligation which forms the basis of our old Militia Act; for, surely, at any time Parliament can rescind any act or make any new Act that it chooses when once called together!

The Militia Act of 1906 modifies the Act of 1886, and provides that para 10 shall now read, "The male inhabitants between 18 and 60 shall be **LIABLE** to serve in the militia."

Para. 15 classifies the male population liable to serve also into four classes, the same as before.

Para. 69 gives the Governor-General in Council power to place the militia (but not those "liable to serve in the militia") as provided in paras. 78 and 79 of the 1886 Act.

Para. 75 makes it necessary for a man to volunteer for service longer than one year, and paras. 144, 145 and 146 give the Governor in Council power to make regulations for carrying this Act into effect, but which regulations have to be ratified by the House of Commons and the Senate.

Surely the power not only to train men but to use them at a moment's notice for our national safety should be in the hands of our Government, who ought to put it into force on their own responsibility without hesitation when the country is in danger!

Of course the power of calling out untrained men is practically useless. The men should be trained. In this connection many may remember the words of Sir John French, spoken in this city on 24th of May, 1912: "If the