

The situation in Canada is rapidly becoming serious. Thousands of skilled workmen have been taken from factories which are engaged on army contracts and put into uniform, where their military value has been actually diminished. If one simultaneous draft had been made upon the factories working on war supplies and no further levies had been asked, the owners would have been able to estimate the labor problem before them. But, instead of one draft, there have been hundreds. The foreman of one department went one day, his successor a week later, half his staff followed, and those who replaced them were again seized by recruiting officers. The results have been constant disorganization, repeated training of new batches of men, loss of time, unprofitable expenditure of money, and, most serious of all, inability to produce war supplies up to the capacity of factories under normal conditions.

To a greater or less degree the above situation applies to other forms of production.

It is not good policy, from a military point of view, to enlist such men as farmers or farm foremen of long experience, who can get the best results from the land, or business men occupying important positions when there are still thousands of young single men in the country who are obviously indifferent to the call of duty.

#### **What the Census Shows.**

Let us consider the last census of wage earners taken by the Dominion Government, and select some of the occupations now filled by men of military age, keeping in mind the question: Cannot a great number of the men engaged in these occupations be enlisted and replaced in civilian life by (a) returned soldiers; (b) rejected men; (c) women and girls; (d) old men and boys?

##### *I. Agricultural—*

Fruit pickers, dairy workers, servants, gardeners, florists, nurserymen.

##### *II. Domestic and Personal Class—*

Barbers and hair dressers, cooks, elevator operators, bell boys, housekeepers, stewards, launderers, servants, waiters.

##### *III. Fishing—*

Employees engaged in taking, curing, drying and canning fish.

##### *IV. Lumbering—*

Office staffs, checkers, woodyard foremen.