

THE ECONOMICS OF WAR

Many Canadian businessmen are opposed to conscription for obvious reasons.

First, any man familiar with figures cannot admit — as too often said — that voluntary recruiting has been a failure, when a country of a little over seven million inhabitants has succeeded in raising more than four hundred thousand volunteers for service overseas.

Then, one must take into account, from a business standpoint, the particular position of Canada, which is entirely different from that of all the European countries now at war, and also from that of the United States.

According to statistics drawn up by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the value of the imports per capita of Canada for the year 1911, compared with that of other countries, was as follows: Canada, \$70.24; Great Britain, \$61.55; Argentine Republic, \$47.39; France, \$39.30; Germany, \$35.17; United States, \$16.63; Austria - Hungary, \$12.61; Russia, \$3.40. These figures show that Canada was proportionately the largest importer in