

CONSCRIPTION VIEWED HISTORICALLY.

Conscription is alien to the spirit of the two great Canadian peoples -- French and English.

Conscription -- that is, a system of universal military service -- was not known in France until after the Revolution -- long after the ancestors of our French Canadian population had left the Old Country.

British people stoutly resisted conscription until the crisis of 1916.

Both countries had experienced compulsory service of a kind.

Britain had the notorious "press gang".

France had the "levée".

But, these were for the purpose of recruiting professional armies and had nothing in common with conscription as we know it today.