

Probably this class would suffice to complete the forces which Canada is pledged to supply.

The country could thus fulfil its obligations without serious loss of revenue, or serious disturbance of its internal economy.

A system of wise Selection should appeal strongly to every loyal member of the community. It is not contrary to the spirit of true Liberty, for which the Empire is fighting. That Liberty for which a man will not fight is not deserving of the name. No man is free from the duty of defending the State.

It is not suggested that the proposed System of Selection should be permanent. Extraordinary need justifies extraordinary measures.

It is hoped that all who are in sympathy with the above Memorial will exert their utmost influence to further its objects.

MR. S. F. WASHINGTON, K.C., of Hamilton:

Sir Robert Borden, Sir George Foster and Hon. Mr. Kemp. I have the honor to represent the Hamilton Recruiting League, and at the outset I desire to point out to you, Sir, whom we represent at this meeting. We have representatives here from nearly fifty Recruiting Leagues throughout this Province and Canada generally. We have also a gentleman here from Halifax representing the Recruiting League of Nova Scotia; another from St. John representing the Recruiting League of New Brunswick, and Hon. Chief Justice Mathers, who represents the Tenth Military District, running from Port Arthur to the far boundary of Manitoba. The Recruiting Leagues in this Province and throughout the Dominion were formed because the men required to furnish Overseas Battalions were not coming, as we thought, fast enough. The first call was promptly responded to by the best and the bravest, the men who saw their duty without Recruiting Leagues or recruiting speeches. The first 100,000 came easily. We found other men were not coming. Leagues were formed by the most representative men in each community to assist the Government to furnish Overseas Contingents. Representatives of these Leagues who are now before you represent professional men, farmers, manufacturers—in fact, all classes. These men throughout the Province of Ontario have devoted a tremendous amount of time and a large amount of their own money for the purpose of securing men to the extent required. We have come to the conclusion, Sir, that the present system is a failure, and that if your promise to the British Government to back it up with the last dollar and the last man is to be carried out, some other system must be adopted.

Sir Robert Borden—"In what respect do you mean failure?"

Mr. Washington—"This. We are getting the wrong men."

Sir Robert Borden—"You are not alluding to the number?"

Mr. Washington—"Well, the number also. They are coming very slowly."