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Without Conscription

THE WAR RECORD OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

In the months of May and June, 1916, the personnel of the Canadian Public Service,—particularly of that section of the Service located in Ottawa,—was subjected to bitter attack through the press and from public platforms for its alleged failure to furnish a proper proportion of men to the Canadian Expeditionary Force for overseas service. On June 23rd of that year *The Civilian* published a correct statement of the matter and, simultaneously, a statement was given to the press by the President of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, embodying the same information and statistics. Mere truth proved to be more effective than any argument could have been. Misrepresentations were overwhelmed and the campaign of unfair criticism ended forthwith.

THE FACTS TO-DAY.

Practically a year has passed. Conditions in regard to the war and national affairs have greatly altered and prospective conscription promises greater changes. The time seems opportune to again review, briefly, the war record of the Public Service of Canada.

Enlistments.

Statistics of enlistments are the best measure of military effort. Up to the 1st of June, 1917, records show that enlistments from the Canadian Public Service,—

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------|
| In Ottawa | exceed | 981 |
| Outside of Ottawa | “ | 2,827 |
| For the whole Service..... | “ | <u>3,808</u> |

The record is incomplete because a number of Departments had not reported new enlistments for some time previous to the date stated and two had never furnished complete lists.

Further, no enlistments which took place subsequent to the mention of conscription in the House of Commons by the Premier are counted, consequently the above figures demonstrate, though incompletely, what the Service did for the army and navy *without conscription or the fear of conscription*.

If the record were to be completed to the date stated, enlistments from the Service in Ottawa would be found to exceed 1,000 and from the remainder of the Service to exceed 4,000, making a grand total of 5,000 men freely and voluntarily enlisted for active service.

It should also be remembered that more than a thousand men of the