

were regarded as innocent and inoffensive, and moreover were in possession of much of the required information. So after a pleasant interview with Mr. McLeod and his staff, the latter were entrusted with the task. The work was completed, and the League possessed a Register of real practical value.

### THE HAMILTON MEMORIAL.

Although most of the topics debated by the League arose out of the Reports of the Sub-Committees, there were some important matters that sprang from the Executive itself. Perhaps the most prominent of these, and certainly the one that brought the widest celebrity was the *Hamilton Memorial*.

The first advocate of conscription was the Crown Attorney, whose allusions to it at public meetings as early as August, 1915, evoked manifest approval. As time went on, and voluntary enlistment slackened, the minds of other leaders were directed to the necessity for some form of compulsory enlistment. Sir John Gibson believed in the Militia Act. It had the advantage of being already a law of the land, and probably no class of the community would raise serious opposition to it. He became the stoutest upholder of conscription within the limits of the Act, and, after the Memorial had been rejected by the Government, he again urged the League to concentrate its influence and efforts to secure the enforcement of the Act. He found a doughty lieutenant in Sam. Landers, who indeed was the first to openly advocate the claims of the Military Act. In February, 1916, he introduced the subject, which caused a long and interesting discussion.

Most of the members of the League were in favour of some system of compulsion more drastic than that of the Militia Act. The latter seemed to shelter certain classes of the community, and seemed likely to affect the economic welfare of the country. A wise System of Selection was demanded.

As a result of much deliberation the League decided to draft a Memorial to Sir Robert Borden embodying its views and suggestions. To carry out the League's wishes a committee was appointed consisting of the Rev. W. H. Sedgewick, J. H. Collinson, Col. Robertson, Col. Hatch, G. C. Copley, W. S. Connolly, C. I. Aitchison, Col. W. H. Bruce and R. L. Smith. The Memorial was drawn up and approved by the League. An explanation which should develop in greater detail the matters mentioned in the Memorial