

The **Military Service Act** is the Act which enacts **Conscription**. The enforcement of this Act, without any reference to its provisions to the people, is **the only point of difference** between Sir Robert Borden's war policy and that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as respects the several items in this statement of Sir Robert's manifesto. **Sir Wilfrid pledges his government, just as strongly as Sir Robert Borden to the vigorous prosecution of the war; to the maintenance of Canada's effort by the provision of necessary reinforcements; and to the most thorough co-operation with the governments of the United Kingdom and of the other Dominions in all matters relating to the war.** As respects **Conscription**, Sir Wilfrid takes the position that he "will not proceed further" under the provisions of the **Military Service Act** without consulting the people upon it by means of an immediate referendum.

Since Sir Robert Borden's manifesto was issued, the policy of **Conscription** which it announces has been further emphasized by the **Hon. General Mewburn, Minister of Militia in Sir Robert's Government**, who in speaking of the **Military Service Act** in an address at a Convention of conscriptionists held at Hamilton on **November 2nd**, said :

"One thing I am opposed to in the new measure is the limitation to **100,000 men**. We are in this war, or should be, not with one, two or three hundred thousand, but to the very limit of our resources."

The **Minister of Militia** is the member of the **Borden Union Government** through whom it was expected that a complete statement of the Government's war policy would be announced. In the absence of any contradiction by Sir Robert Borden of the Government's policy as outlined by the new **Minister of Militia**, the policy stands as thus expressed. **Sir Robert Borden's policy is, therefore, one of unlimited conscription of men, and should be so understood by the electorate.** **Sir Robert is opposed to allowing the people any further opportunity than that which the present elections afford to express their views with regard to **Conscription**.** The people should know this, and understand clearly what it involves.

In a second manifesto issued by Sir Robert Borden, on **Nov. 13th**, the following statement as to the numbers of Canadians already enlisted appears :

"By voluntary enlistment an army of over four hundred thousand has been enrolled."

An army in the United States of like proportion to its total population would number over five millions.