

some four years. Col. Sinclair submitted to the government in the autumn of 1866 an improved scheme for training. I have not made a calculation on the last census, but looking to the census of 1901, Col. Sinclair's scheme, if applied to Canada, would give this result :

1. First training or recruit class, composed of young men between 17 and 21, to be trained for 28 days each year .....	219,000
2. First service men, between 21 and 25, to be trained for 10 days .....	200,000
3. First reserve, between 25 and 30, to be trained for five days .....	216,000
4. Second reserve, between 30 and 35, to attend muster and review one day .....	188,000
5. Third reserve, between 35 and 40, muster and review, one day .....	172,000
6. Fourth reserve, between 40 and 45, muster and review, one day .....	152,000
7. Final reserve, between 45 and 60 .....	313,000

That is what that scheme would have given us, if adopted, say ten years ago—about a million men.

It is of very urgent importance that something should be done to improve our present condition from the defence point of view, and also that we should see that the country is getting something like value for the very large expenditure on account of defence.

This scheme is not conscription. Conscription is the system which takes a certain portion of the young men of the country away from their homes and business and keeps them in military life and camps and in garrison for a period of two or three or five years, or whatever it may be. That is conscription, but there is no conscription where every young man has to go and drill four weeks during the period, say, between seed time and harvest, and you should not apply to a plan of this kind a name that does not properly belong to it.

Then again we hear the term militarism. Gentlemen think that if they use the word militarism, that every peaceably disposed citizen will immediately condemn the scheme. But the same thing applies to militarism as applies to conscription. Militarism exists where you have a soldier class, separate and apart from the general community; but where every man has to serve there is no militarism.

There is just one other point. Any hon. gentleman who stops to think a moment will see you cannot have universal service, or the service of the people of our country,