

those *privileged* slaves fought *voluntarily* in the ranks of the Confederates. Lincoln's proclamation of liberty plunged them into consternation. By breaking their bonds, it forced them to earn a living and take all their responsibilities as human beings. To this they were not used: *responsibility* they dreaded more than they loved freedom.

Voluntary servitude we despise and we hate.

Full national independence, neutrality and peace we would prefer to all other conditions. But if we must don the khaki and help England in doing police work all the world over, let it be as responsible partners, and not as 'loyal and patriotic' flunkies, even if it should cost us more to *co-operate* than to *serve* 'freely'. Likewise, regular military service would be much preferable to the present system of 'free' enlistment kept up by blackmail and intimidation, and the degrading 'oratory' of *slacker* politicians, who have betrayed all their past pledges, under the broad pretence of 'saving the liberties of the world' . . . by proxy.

Does it mean that we, Nationalists, are prepared to accept holus-bolus and in all its details the plan of reform suggested by MR. CURTIS and the *Round Table*? Far from it.

Independence is *our* solution. When the hour of decision comes, we will advocate this "the simplest" solution of the 'problem of Empire' — and should we fall short of arguments, there would be no trouble in replenishing our quiver with some of the shafts so ably used in the past by SIR WILFRID LAURIER and MR. LEMIEUX.

But if the majority of Canadians decide to shirk their national responsibilities, and shrink from the full exercise of national freedom, then we will fall back on the alternative, and claim real and complete participation in the government of the Empire, as a counterpoise to the burdens of which Canada now bears her full charge.

Conditions of partnership

Naturally, the conditions of partnership will have to be discussed. The above indicated objections to the all-speculative apportionment of the Imperial budget will have to be considered and thrashed out.

Above all, we would claim the application of the principle of partnership to all British communities fit for it — to India, for example.