

Spenser Wilkinson, who was the foremost advocate of volunteerism for ~~the~~ 35 years, saw the totality of a European war and urged adoption of a system of national service. ⁽³²⁰⁾ In 1914, however, Wilkinson's realism was premature.

One of the pre war periods greatest military journalists, Charles A Court Repington, was military correspondent for the times but his 1916 articles must be used carefully due to his extreme dislike of politicians ^{in general} and of the war cabinet specifically. (320)

ASP TAYLOR, in his English History, 1914-1945, says "compulsory service did not achieve its alleged purpose of providing more men for the army," in 1916 citing the reduced enlistment rates during the first 6 months of conscription as his authority. What he fails to note is that enlistment rates were already falling and that the in potent stop-gap ~~measure~~ ^{war-cabinet's} measure of trying to call up the attested and unattested single classes in early 1916, was ~~another~~ a failure of the government ^{to fully} accept the need for national service as a stimulus to

The fault lay not with the ~~system~~ principle of conscription, but with the government's failure to commit itself to a measure which ~~most~~ politicians thought would incur generally unfavorable reaction from the people. In this, the ^{govt were} ~~misguided~~ ^{misguided} ~~the~~ ^{willpower} ~~the~~ ^{of the people} ~~to get on~~ ^{with the war.}

xx JAY LUDAS, The Education of an Army British Military Thought, 1815-1940 (Chicago: Univ of Chicago Press, 1964)

Jones, Thomas Lloyd George CAMBRIDGE: HARVARD U. Press, 1951

Misread Europe on the eve of WWI

Even after Sarajevo, still didn't see the problem.

P60- Univ. M.I. Serv. becomes law 25 May 1916

"L.G. would have supported a much earlier recourse to compulsion." "So would Churchill, Carson, and Curzon. As far back as the Constitutional Conference of 1910, in a secret memorandum proposing a party truce, L-G had ^{P.61}asked that the question of compulsory training should not be shelved."

P60 "Roughly, Conservatives were for conscription, Liberals and Labour against, and the Cabinet itself was as deeply divided as the country."

(period of the coalition cabinet - 1916)

Manpower problem

Question of Honors "Business" got 26 peerages 130 baronetcies,
481 knight-hoods; "Press" 5 peerages, 5 baronetcies, 37 knights

GG

An attack on Voluntaryism & the 8th.
Demand for National Service as the only way

Pg 1 of 3

Oliver, Frederick Scott ORDEAL by Battle

London: Mac Millan and Co., 1915

In the ~~purpose of this~~ book preface, the author states his belief that ~~the~~ "It is not only military duties which the State is entitled to command its citizens to perform unquestioningly in times of danger; but also civil duties." (xii)

"Under conditions of modern warfare it is not only armies which need to be disciplined; but whole nations." (xii-xiii)

While revisiting the South African battlefields in 1904, Lord Roberts became convinced that "'national service' was a necessity." (310)

Roberts resigned from the Comm of Imperial Defence in 1905 in order to ~~be~~ be free to advocate a conscription program. (310)

... "M. Clemenceau once urged that Lord Roberts should receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his advocacy of 'conscription' in England. The proposal was made quite seriously." (n.1, 315)

(A strong English army would preserve European peace)

Oliver, Ordeal

First speech by Lord Roberts in favor of National Service which attracted widespread attention was the 22 Oct 1912 speech in the Free Trade Hall at Manchester. (332)

Liberals attacked it. Unionists were "uncomfortable, and disapproving." (332)

Liberal & Radical papers attacked Roberts and the National Service League as agitating for a British attack on Germany, or at the least, a war of some kind. (341)

A letter to the Westminster Gazette (20 Jan 1915) from Walter Shaw Sparrow, says that the Kitchener recruiting program is one of "shrieking posters and a journalistic clamour against 'shirkers,' and loud abuse of professional foot-buffers." The writer argues that the exertion of "moral pressure, with the outcries of public indignation, in order to drive civilians from their work into the army" — is nothing more than "a most undignified compulsion." (n.2, 371)

Two examples of recruiting posters (n1, 367-68)

"(A) Four questions to the women of England.

1. You have read what the Germans have done in Belgium. Have you thought what they would do if they invaded England?
2. Do you realize that the safety of your Home & Children depends

Oliver, Ordant

on our getting more men now?

3. Do you realize that ^{the} one word "Go" from you may send another man to fight for our King and Country?
4. When the War is over and your husband or your son is asked 'What did you do in the Great War?' — is he to hang his head because you would not let him go?

Women of England do your duty! Send your men ~~to-day~~
to-day to join our glorious Army.
 GOD SAVE The King.

(16) Five questions to those who employ male servants.

1. Have you a butler, groom, chauffeur, gardener, or gamekeeper serving you who, at this moment should be serving your King and Country?
2. Have you a man serving at your table who should be serving a gun?
3. Have you a man digging your garden who should be digging trenches?
4. Have you a man driving your car who should be driving a transport wagon?
5. Have ——— preserving your game who should be helping to preserve your country?

A great responsibility rests on you. Will you sacrifice your personal convenience for your Country's need?

Ask your men to enlist today.

The address of the nearest Recruiting Office can be obtained at any Post Office.

God Save the King.