

tion for smaller wages in a more necessary one. And, let it be said, it is difficulty to blame the individual for sitting tight when he sees others doing the same. Under the equal treatment of compulsion, that class would automatically disappear, as it did when compulsory military service was instituted. Then, unless we have every man and woman labelled and classified for the work he or she is best fitted to perform, and available to be sent immediately to that work, we simply do not know where we are. The voluntary system will never give us that state of things.

There is another class, too, with which we have to deal: that which sees in every expression of confidence in ultimate victory an excuse for hanging back. That class is rather in evidence at the moment. What is the necessity, they ask, for volunteering for work when the war is nearly over? The Germans are on the run already, so what is the use of coming forward now at the tail-end of things? That is the sort of fatuous optimism that does harm. It is very largely the thing that made universal military service necessary. If only they would stop to think! Are the Germans really on the run? We do not mind risking the prophecy that before many days, or at any rate weeks, have passed we shall learn that, so far from being on the run, they are as chock full of fight as ever. Brilliant as the successes of our armies have been in the past few days, they do not warrant the brand of optimism that produces the kind of slacking to which we have referred. Again, there is but one solid cure for the disease—compulsory service.

**Using the Wrong Comb.** The ways of the War Office and the tribunals are past finding out. The latest example of the misuse of the comb comes from Lancaster, where the military representative, acting on instructions from the War Office, asked for the withdrawal of the exemption certificates of 161 men of military age employed by local manufacturing firms. Sir Norval Helme, M.P., spoke for the three firms concerned, and suggested a conference between the military and the employers, so that by a scheme of substitution the firms could keep going. Special cloth ordered by the Aircraft Department (*sic*) was urgently required, but could not be delivered if these men were taken. In the result, the exemptions were continued until the 31st March—and the military representative gave notice of appeal!

Here again is one of these cases in which the military authorities so constantly display a lamentable want of the sense of proportion. Certainly, we want all the men we can get for the army, but the recruiting branch seems to forget that the reservoir is not limitless in its capacity. They seldom or never pause to ask of what use is it to take men into the army at the expense of crippling the very industries that are most essential to supply the needs of the same men when they have been converted into soldiers. Clearly, more common-sense methods are required.

A single moment's reflection upon the aerial events of the moment should mark the aeronautical industry as the one to consider.

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**THE ROLL OF HONOUR.**

**REPORTED by the Admiralty:—**

**Killed.**

- F 18244 2nd Grade Air-Mech. J. A. Campbell.
- F 13877 1st Grade Air-Mech. V. J. A. Gill.

**Died of Wounds.**

- F 5325 1st Grade Air-Mech. G. L. Cowin.

**Severely Wounded.**

- F 6265 1st Grade Air-Mech. E. Anstead.
- F 21600 2nd Grade Air-Mech. A. M. Booker.
- M 16452 1st Grade Air-Mech. R. H. Carney.
- F 14151 1st Grade Air-Mech. A. H. Chelmick.
- F 21602 2nd Grade Air Mech. J. Edy.
- F 10673 2nd Grade Air-Mech. E. J. Elleman.
- F 6975 1st Grade Air-Mech. R. O. Harding.
- F 13997 2nd Grade Air Mech. E. D. F. Martin.
- F 13255 1st Grade Air-Mech. G. A. Newman.
- F 11918 2nd Grade Air-Mech. H. Nicholas.
- F 13881 1st Grade Air-Mech. J. W. Parsons.
- F 5494 1st Grade Air-Mech. J. V. Pope.
- F 8119 Leading Mech. F. C. Taylor.
- F 8357 2nd Grade Air-Mech. A. Watson.

**Reported by the War Office:—**

**Killed.**

- 2nd Lieut. W. K. Carse, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. A. G. S. De Ross, R.F.C.
- Lieut. J. S. Green, R.F.C.
- Lieut. H. C. Mulock, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. M. Myers, M.C., Suffolk, attd. R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. W. Nisbet, Yeo. and R.F.C.
- Capt. F. W. H. Simpson, R.G.A. and R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. A. E. Townsend, Durham L.I. and R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. C. Young, R.F.C.
- 33728 2nd Corpl. Air-Mech. B. Hartley, R.F.C.

**Previously reported Missing, now reported Killed.**

- 2nd Lieut. G. R. Bolitho, Devon, attd. R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. J. N. Holtom, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. G. Russell, F.R.A., attd. R.F.C.

**Previously reported Missing, now reported Missing, believed Killed.**

- Major M. A. Black, Dragon Gds. and R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. H. Matthews, R.F.C.
- Lieut. S. J. M. White, Norfolk and R.F.C.

**Previously reported Missing, now reported Died of Wounds as Prisoners of War in German hands.**

- 2nd Lieut. J. G. Cameron, Cameron Hdrs., attd. R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. St. J. F. N. Echlin, R. Fus., attd. R.F.C.
- 1864 Sergt. J. E. Glover, R.F.C.

**Wounded.**

- Capt. G. C. Bailey, D.S.O., R.F.C.
- Lieut. S. E. Goodwin, King's (Liverpool) and R.F.C.
- Capt. H. W. G. Jones, Welsh and R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. W. I. Jourdan, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. W. J. Pearson, R.A.M.C., attd. R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. H. E. Rathkens, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. F. J. Taylor, R.F.C.
- Lieut. R. B. Wainwright, Lancers, attd. R.F.C.
- 290 Flight-Sergt. C. J. Cox, R.F.C.

**Missing.**

- 2nd Lieut. C. D. Bennett, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. H. A. Croft, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. E. Hamilton, R.F.C.
- Lieut. C. H. March, R.F.A. and R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. L. V. Munn, Leicester, attd. R.F.C.
- Capt. C. L. M. Scott, N. Staffs., attd. R.F.C.
- Capt. J. M. E. Shepherd, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. A. C. Stopher, R. Welsh F., attd. R.F.C.
- 917 Sergt. J. F. Shaw, R.F.C.

**Previously reported Missing, now reported Prisoners of War in German hands.**

- 2nd Lieut. F. N. Insoll, R.F.C.
- 2nd Lieut. A. D. Pocock, R.F.C.

**Previously reported Missing, now reported Prisoner of War in Bulgarian hands.**

- Lieut. S. Smith, R.F.C.