

THE BETTER WAY

- ★ Co-operation, not war, is the keynote of peace. All forms of militarism belong to the past, a relic of the days when kings ruled and the people were serfs.
- ★ Because some men and youths refused to become slaves to military law the voice of freedom is still heard in Australia.
[(When military conscription was in force before, 27,749 cases came before the Court in order to get a strength of 123,497 trainees = more than one prosecution for every four lads drilling.)
- ★ The world wants food, not guns and bombs. The amount spent and wasted on preparation for war will provide every family in the world with decent living conditions.
- ★ Build friendships, not battleships. The abolition of armaments will remove such suspicion, hatred and greed in the world.
- ★ YOU are NOT a coward, shirker or traitor if you refuse to be conscripted. Read the principles set out in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Authorised by the Federal Pacifist Council of Australia and the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Queensland, c/o 345 Boundary Street, West End, Brisbane
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FACTS . .

ABOUT

MILITARY

CONSCRIPTION

IT MEANS—

An economic waste of time and labor, taking men and women from useful occupations.

That able-bodied youths are forced to learn the art of human slaughter.

That the inherent rights of freedom of conscience, liberty and justice are violated.

That Democracy founded on equality is replaced by the class system of militarism with the law behind those who control.

That young men in camps are exposed to the danger of alcoholic liquor and a lowering of moral standards, accepting a callous attitude to life as a result of the vicious training they are given.

That the conscript is placed in surroundings where all effort is directed towards preparation for killing, where slaughter is lightly spoken of and where physical bravery is regarded as the highest earthly virtue.

NEVER AGAIN—

In 1910 the Cook Government passed an Act which made military training compulsory for boys and men from 12 to 26 years. Parents could be fined up to £100 for preventing their boys from registering and fines from £5 to £100 could be imposed for failure to attend compulsory drill. Persons who refused military training were ineligible for employment in the Commonwealth Service.

In 2½ years the Defence Department instigated no less than 27,749 prosecutions involving fines, and also 5,732 imprisonments of lads in fortresses and gaols. Many of these boys, called "shirkers," whose only crime was a healthy love of liberty, were subjected to solitary confinement on bread and water.

Older men bound the knapsack on the shoulders of voteless boys, while they themselves remained free.

YOU NEED NOT HAVE

CONSCRIPTION

IF YOU

THINK AND ACT NOW

Determine yourself to resist this tyranny—this loss of freedom

Write or see your Federal Member of Parliament

Urge your Church groups, trade union and other organisations to protest

Arrange discussion groups in your Church, factory and home

Take every opportunity to talk to everyone you meet

We base our **OPPOSITION** to **CONSCRIPTION** and **WAR** on the **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIANITY AND DEMOCRACY**