

2) The Home Front

Women's Patriotic Association (WPA)

- ❑ Role was to assist troops and give help to their families at home.
- ❑ Made bandages, knitted scarves, socks, hats, etc. for the Red Cross
- ❑ Also raised funds for families who were grieving and cared for injured veterans. Raised \$500,000 by war's end.
- ❑ There were 150 branches of the WPA with 15,000 members throughout Newfoundland.



Newfoundland Patriotic Association (NPA)

- ❑ Government made this group of 300 St. John's volunteers responsible for managing Newfoundland's war effort.
- ❑ Different from other parts of the empire because governments usually controlled raising money for war.
- ❑ Main duties included recruiting and supplying the Newfoundland Regiment, Royal Naval Reserve and Forestry Corps.
- ❑ Government resumed responsibility for recruitment when enlistment dropped in 1917.

PROCLAMATION !

W. E. DAVIDSON,
Governor,
[L. S.]

By His Excellency Sir WALTER EDWARD DAVIDSON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

YOUR KING AND COUNTRY NEED YOU ! Will You Answer Your Country's Call ?

At this very moment the Empire is engaged in the greatest War in the history of the World. In this crisis your country calls on her young men to rally round Her Flag and enlist in the ranks of Her Army.

If every Patriotic young man answers Her Call, Great Britain and the Empire will emerge stronger and more united than ever.

Newfoundland responds to the Homeland's Call and promises to enlist, equip and despatch to England the First Newfoundland Regiment of 5000 strong. We want to send our best, and we believe that Britain's Oldest Colony will gain greater honour and glory for Her Name.

If you are between 19 and 35 years old, will you answer your Country's Call? If you will, then go to the nearest Magistrate and card your name for service in the fighting line. If you live in St. John's go to the C. L. B. Armory and enter your name at the Central Recruiting Office, or any evening between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Tickets to St. John's will be provided by the Magistrate free of cost. The terms of enlistment are: To serve abroad for the duration of the war, but not exceeding one year. It is intended the men shall leave within one month of their enrollment, and that in the meantime they shall receive a course of instruction and training in St. John's.

A complete outfit will be provided. Each private will receive pay at the rate of \$1.00 per day and free rations, from the date of enrollment to the date of return, a portion of which will be paid to dependents left behind, or it will be allowed to accumulate for their personal benefit until termination of service.

Volunteers from outports will be given free passage to St. John's. Any applicant for service, forwarded by the proper authorities and not accepted after arrival at Headquarters, will be provided with a free passage and maintenance back to his home.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the Government House, St. John's, this 21st day of August, A. D. 1914.

By His Excellency's Command,
JOHN R. HENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

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Examples of various funds set up by Newfoundland Patriotic Association

- **The Cot Fund:** provided cots for British hospitals as well as money for hospitals in London where Newfoundlanders stayed.
- **The Fish and Brewis Fund:** fund to provide “comforts” to the soldiers.
- **The Mayo Lind Fund:** set up after Corporal Frank Lind’s letter in the *Daily News* stated that it was “impossible to get a good pipe overseas.” Several shipments of tobacco were sent and Lind began being called “Mayo” (after a popular brand of tobacco) a name he carried until he was killed at Beaumont-Hamel.
- **The Aeroplane Fund:** raised enough money to supply four aircraft to the British Expeditionary Force.
- **The Patriotic Fund:** created for individuals or companies who wanted to do their patriotic duty by making monetary donations to the war effort.

THE WAR FUNDS
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE HOME FRONT

THE COT FUND
A fund sponsored by the Patriotic Association for the provision of cots for British hospitals as well as grants to London hospitals which had cared for Newfoundland and Labrador soldiers. This fund also provided for 232 beds for men from Newfoundland and Labrador at the military hospital in Dublin, England and St. John's.

THE FISH & BREWIS FUND
A fund sponsored by the Patriotic Association to provide some "comforts" to the soldiers.

THE MAYO LIND FUND
This fund was set up as a result of a letter sent by the colony's unofficial war correspondent Francis D. Lind in the *Daily News* in 1915. Lind stated it was "impossible to obtain a good pipe overseas." In all different official campaigns were launched to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador soldiers received "good" tobacco overseas. Lind became known as "Mayo" after a brand of popular tobacco. Lind, a 60-ounce tin carried until his death at Beaumont-Hamel in 1916.

THE AEROPLANE FUND
A fund sponsored by the Patriotic Association which raised enough money to supply four aircraft taking with one from a private source for the British Expeditionary Force.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND
The Treasurer acknowledges the following amounts:
Already received ————— \$1000
Henry & Co. Ltd and A. Harvey & Co. ——— \$2500
A. Chard ————— 1500
The respective family ————— 510
Agnes M. Hayward ————— 510
Helen C. Hayward ————— 510
Nathalia Hayward ————— 510
Frank W. Hayward ————— 510
S. J. Tucker ————— 510
Total ————— \$8510
J. S. Major, Hon. Treasurer

Conscription

- ❑ As the war dragged on, people were shocked by the high rate of casualties and the number of men enlisting declined.
- ❑ In order to remain a significant force, the Newfoundland Regiment had to maintain a strength of at least 1,000 trained and outfitted men.
- ❑ The government considered conscription (forced military service) and in early 1918 introduced the Military Service Act.
- ❑ Required all unmarried men aged 19 – 25 to register for service.

NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT

DATE	NUMBER OF ENLISTMENTS
1915	1418
1916 Jan - Jun	709
1916 Jul - Dec	378
1917 Jan - Jun	513

NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT
MILITARY SERVICE ACT
1918

Views For and Against Conscription

For Conscription

- 1. Newfoundland pride is at stake. If undermanned, the Newfoundland Regiment could be made part of Canadian Army.**
- 2. The British Empire is facing a threat and Newfoundland should support Britain.**
- 3. Britain passed conscription in 1916, Canada did it in 1917, now Newfoundland should.**

Against Conscription

- 1. The government has no right to force men to fight. Men should choose to sacrifice their lives willingly.**
- 2. This is a European war far away from Newfoundland. We should not be forced into it.**
- 3. St. John's merchants are getting rich from this war. Why should the working class risk their lives so the rich can get richer?**