

Worthing Gazette 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1914 page 6

**RESPONDING TO THE CALL!**  
**A Recruiting Effort.**  
**Magnificent Meeting at the Kursaal.**  
**The Practical Result.**  
**More Than a Hundred Enrol**  
**Themselves.**

SCENES of remarkable enthusiasm were witnessed in connection with the public meeting which was convened by the Mayor (Alderman R. Piper, J.P.) at the Kursaal on Monday evening, for the purpose of stimulating recruiting; and it is gratifying to know that the practical result of the gathering has been in every way most encouraging. The body of the spacious Coronation Hall was reserved for the men, of whom there must have been at least three thousand present; and the balconies, where the ladies were accommodated, were also well filled.

Previous to the meeting there was a procession round the town, headed by Mr. Cramer-Suckley's Band, under his personal direction; and the arrival at the Hall of these musicians, accompanied by four members of the local Lifeboat Crew carrying the Union Jack and

**The Flags of Our Allies,**  
 was the signal for a hearty outburst of cheering, which was renewed as the Mayor and his immediate supporters made their appearance upon the platform.

Included among them were Captain A. B. S. Fraser, J.P. (the Honorary Recruiting Officer for the Worthing District), Colonel Sir Duncan Johnston, Admiral Fleet, Major Hill, Major W. R. Prickett, Captain H. E. Mathews (Commanding the H Company of the Fourth Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment), Lieutenant H. C. B. Bowles (of the Ammunition Column of the First Home Counties Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery), Alderman E. C. Patching, J.P., Mr. H. Hargood, J.P., Captain M. J. Prentice, Councillor E. Ellis, Mr. E. W. Bennett (Honorary Secretary of the Recruiting Committee), Mr. E. L. Hadfield, and Chief Officer Goldfish (of the local Coastguard).

The meeting having been opened with the singing of the National Anthem, accompanied by the Band,

The MAYOR referred to the generous response which had been made to his appeal of three weeks ago on behalf of the War Relief Fund, and then went on to say that he had called them together again that evening in order that they might get something that was

**Even More Necessary Than Money**  
 —the personal service of young men to their country in this time of stress and trouble (loud applause). Lord Roberts, that grand old man, had been up and down the country for some years now endeavouring to show the young manhood of England that their services were wanted; but unfortunately his voice had been like a voice in the wilderness—not because the young men were wanting in pluck or were of a different breed from their ancestors who fought at Waterloo, but because they did not realise the danger the country was in (hear, hear). They had not got that excuse now (applause). After a brief reference to the cause of the War and the ruthless manner in which Germany had invaded and devastated Belgium—conduct which, his Worship observed amid cheers, must show the world that the sooner Germany was wiped off the map of Europe the better it would be for the world at large—the Mayor read letters which he had received from Colonel Sir Berry Cusack-Smith and the Officer commanding the new Seventh Service Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment appealing for recruits, and added that personally he had every confidence that these appeals would not be made in vain. He also wanted to say

**A Word to the Employers.**  
 He would like all employers to tell all the young single men in their employ that they must either do one of two things—they must either clear out or they must join the Territorials or Lord Kitchener's Army (loud applause). Let the employers also tell those young men that after the War was over their places would be open for them to take on again (applause). Some of the Worthing tradesmen had already given their men this promise. Messrs. Potter, Bailey, and Co. and one or two other firms had done so, and he had done it himself (applause). "And now a word to you ladies!" his Worship proceeded. "Young women, talk to your brothers and point out to them where their duty lies; talk to your sweethearts, and tell them their country wants them!" (applause).

A patriotic selection, "Hearts of Oak," was next played by the Band, after which

Mr. H. HARGOOD, J.P., proposed and Admiral FLEET seconded a resolution pledging the meeting to render whole-hearted assistance in the effort that is now being made to obtain recruits for His Majesty's Military Forces. In a rousing speech Mr. HARGOOD declared that never before had the sword of England been drawn in

### A More Righteous Cause

than now; and Admiral FLEET, in seconding, remarked that those who enlisted would not only find themselves among comrades and friends, sharing their trials and dangers, but they would also have the satisfaction to the end of their lives of knowing that they had come to their country's help in the time of her greatest stress (applause).

Before putting the resolution to the vote, the Mayor called upon Lieutenant H. C. B. Bowles and Captain H. E. Mathews to explain the advantages and terms of service, and the speeches of both of these Officers, although brief, were essentially to the point.

"Men of Worthing," Lieutenant BOWLES asked, "is this the time to explain to you the advantages of serving your country?" a remark which promptly evoked loud and emphatic replies of "No!" "Are you going to serve your country because of the advantages that are offered you? No! I take it you are going to serve because your country wants you!" (loud applause). Several fellows, he proceeded to say, had remarked to him lately: "We will come when we are wanted!" But, good heavens! did they not realise they were

### Wanted Now

(applause). What good would they be in six months' time? They wanted them now, so that they could be trained in readiness for the time when they would be required to take their places

in the fighting line. He had got thirty-two recruits in two days for his own Battery, and he thought he could have had seventy if he had wanted them. Colonel Cusack-Smith told him only the previous day that he was raising an extra unit, and so they were still recruiting; but so far as the Worthing Battery, which had been accepted for foreign service, was concerned, they were full, and what they wanted to do now was to get recruits for Lord Kitchener's Army.

Captain H. EDMUND MATHEWS, speaking for the H Company, remarked that he was proud to say that they were all working their level best, and animated with one aim, and that was to render a

**Thoroughly Good Account of Themselves** in serving their King and country. The Worthing Company was now up to full strength, but they were looking forward to passing on several for active service, and more men would be wanted to take their places. He hoped that the Seventh Service Battalion of the County Regiment would be filled with Sussex men; and, referring to the influence which the women of the country could bring to bear, he said he would like to hear the expression more freely used: "No gun, no girl!" (applause). Walking along the sea front that day he had seen a number of young men lounging about who he believed were known as "nuts"—(laughter)—but he thought a better word would be "husks," for he was certain that they could have neither heart nor kernel (laughter and applause).

Major HILL subsequently made a brief appeal for the assistance of those who had already done their share of service, but who were not yet too old to serve again, after which the resolution was put and carried amid enthusiasm.

Messrs. Alan Johnston and Harry Reynolds next led the singing of "Rule Britannia," accompanied by the Band; and the meeting closed with three cheers for "Our Soldiers and Sailors at the Front!" and the playing of the English, Belgian, French, and Russian National Anthems.

### The Practical Result.

A large number of young men responded to the Mayor's invitation to come up to the recruiting tables, the total number who gave in their names being a hundred and ten. This list was materially augmented yesterday.

A Concert was given by the Whimsies in the Kursaal Gardens in aid of the War Relief Fund, which realised £20; and addressing the audience here at the close of the programme the Mayor paid a warm tribute to the patriotism of Mr. Seebold in not only giving the War Fund the entire proceeds of the performance, but also in placing the Kursaal at their disposal for the meeting earlier in the evening entirely free of charge. The services of the performers were also warmly acknowledged by his Worship.

Among those who were unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting was Miss Nancy Price, the celebrated actress, who had intended, with the permission of the Mayor, to make an appeal to the young men to do their duty by joining the Flag.