



National Archives of Scotland

Military Appeals Tribunals

Arthur Woodburn, 1916 Military Service Appeal Tribunal Records (Lothians and Peebles)

Reference HH30/2/1/14

Arthur Woodburn, an engineer's and shipping clerk at Miller & Company Limited, Edinburgh, appealed against military service on the grounds of conscientious objection to the war. He also mentioned personal reasons, and emphasised that he 'could not be expected to leave [his] regular work but [did not] wish this to be made a condition of exemption.' Woodburn became Secretary of State for Scotland, 1947-1950.

A selection of images of documents on the appeal file (reference HH30/2/1/14) follows.

Transcribed extracts from the case papers can be viewed at <http://www.nas.gov.uk/about/081103.asp>.

Images of the original documents can be consulted in the National Archives of Scotland search rooms (<http://www.nas.gov.uk>).

HH30/1/5/44(1-3)

N^o 135

This form may be used by attested men and by men applying under the Military Service Act, 1916.

Name of Local Tribunal Leith

Number of Case _____

R.-43

NOTICE OF APPEAL.

TO BE FILLED UP BY APPELLANT.

(The attached duplicate form must also be filled up and sent to the Local Tribunal with this form.)

1. Man in respect of whom appeal made.

- (a) Name (in full) Alexander Ranage Carroll,
- (b) Address (in full) 213 Leith Walk, Leith.
- (c) Occupation, profession or business Clerk & Stenographer
- (d) Whether he is attested or not attested Not attested

2. Grounds on which appeal made. (These should be fully stated.)

I appealed for absolute exemption on the ground of conscientious objection. I have always held strong conscientious objection to the taking of life. As my only means of proving that I honestly held these views before it became known there would be any concession given to those holding them I would refer you to the answer which I gave to the person who called upon me in connection with the Derby Recruiting Campaign in November last. I at that time stated I was on no account take up arms.

The following appeal although not made on my appeal form was submitted to the Local Tribunal and was considered. My only brother is sewing and I have no sisters but have both my father & mother. My father is over 71 years of age and is frequently unfit for work. At the present time he is confined to bed and if I were to go into the army there would be only 10/3 per week (being my brother's allowance) coming into the house. It would be absolutely impossible for my people to keep things going so long as my father is not working even if I also were to make an allowance of 10/3 and I suppose my allowance would be considerably less.

- 3. (a) Signature of appellant Alex. R. Carroll.
- If appeal not made by the man —
- (b) Address of appellant —
- (c) Occupation, profession, or business. (If military representative, state so.) —
- (d) If appellant is not the military representative, why appellant acts for the man —

Date 14th March 1916.

(a 5509) 120a 2/16 H & S

[P.T.O.]

Write along this line

FOR LOCAL TRIBUNAL.

4. Reasons for the decision of the Local Tribunal. (To be signed and dated.)

Town Clerk's Office

Leith 18th March 1916

After hearing the Appellant, the Tribunal was of the opinion that the grounds on which the appeal was made were only sufficient to allow of exemption from combatant service only.

The Tribunal were further of opinion that no great financial hardship would ensue by the Appellant being called up.

Macmillan
Clerk to the Tribunal

FOR APPEAL TRIBUNAL.

5. Decision. (To be signed and dated.)

Edinburgh 28th March 1916. Appeal
Dismissed.

Macmaster
Chairman

MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1916.

APPLICATION AS TO EXEMPTION.

(The attached duplicate must also be filled up by the Applicant.)

Any person making a false statement or false representation is liable to imprisonment.

1. Man in respect of whom application made:—

(a) Name (in full) Alexander Ramage Carral

(b) Age 24

(c) Address (in full) 213 Leith Walk, Leith.

(d) Occupation, profession or business (Give full and exact details)

Clerk & Stenographer.

2. If an employed person:—

(a) Name of employer The Grand Lodge of Scotland (Freemasons)

(b) Address (in full) 96 George Street, Edinburgh.

(c) Business Headquarters of Scottish Freemasonry.

3. Ground on which application is made. [See footnote. It will be sufficient if the letter (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) or (g) (whichever is appropriate), is entered.]

(f)

4. Nature of application. (A certificate of exemption may be absolute, conditional or temporary. Also, a certificate granted on conscientious grounds may be for exemption from combatant service only, or may be conditional on the applicant being engaged in some work which, in the opinion of the Tribunal, is of national importance.)

Absolute exemption

Application may be made:—

- (a) On the ground that it is expedient in the national interests that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he is habitually engaged; or
- (b) On the ground that it is expedient in the national interests that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he wishes to be engaged; or
- (c) If he is being educated or trained for any work, on the ground that it is expedient in the national interests that, instead of being employed in military service, he should continue to be so educated or trained; or
- (d) On the ground that serious hardship would ensue, if the man were called up for Army service, owing to his exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position; or
- (e) On the ground of ill-health or infirmity; or
- (f) On the ground of a conscientious objection to the undertaking of combatant service.

Application may also be made for exemption:—

- (g) On the ground that the principal and usual occupation of the man is one of those included in the list of occupations certified by Government Departments for exemption. The official list of the certified occupations may be consulted at the office of the Local Tribunal or of the recruiting officer.

An application may be made for the withdrawal or variation of any certificate of exemption by the holder of the certificate or by a military representative.

An appeal from the decision of the Local Tribunal lies to the Appeal Tribunal for the area.

[P.T.O.]

5. Reasons in support of the application. (These should be fully stated, and any documentary evidence in support of the application should be forwarded herewith.)

I have always held strong conscientious objection to the taking of life. As my only means of proving that I have honestly entertained these feelings prior to it becoming known that there would be any concession given to those entertaining them I would refer you to my answer to the person who called upon me in connection with the Derby Recruiting Campaign in November last. At that time I said I would on no account take up arms. My own opinion is that going into a non-combatant section of the Army or Navy does not get over the difficulty, and consequently I now appeal for total exemption.

6. (a) Signature of person by whom application made *Alfred Carroll.*
- (b) Address (if not already stated) ... —
- (c) Occupation, profession or business. (If not already stated. If applicant is the military representative, this should be stated.)
Applicant has no military representative
- (d) If application not made by the man or his employer, or by the military representative, brief statement why application made by applicant for the man.
- (e) Date of application *29th February 1916.*
- The form and the duplicate, when filled up, should be sent to the appropriate Local Tribunal. This will be—
- (a) the Local Tribunal for the area in which the place of employment or business is situated if the application is made on grounds wholly or mainly connected with the man's employment or business;
- (b) in other cases, the Local Tribunal for the area in which the man resides.

FOR LOCAL TRIBUNAL.

7. Decision of the Tribunal. *To be signed and dated.* If exemption is granted it should be stated whether it is to be absolute, conditional (in which case the conditions to be entered on the certificate should be stated) or temporary (in which case the time for which the exemption is granted should be stated).

*Concurrence
15th March 1916
Not assented to, but recommended that applicant
be sent to a non-combatant corps.
W. Macdonald Smith
Chairman*

MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1916.

**Form to be sent by Military Representative to
Local Tribunal.**

Name (in full) of man in respect of whom application made to Tribunal

Alexander Ramage Carroll

Number of case quoted on Application

128

Date on which Notice of application received by Military Representative

6-3-16

OBSERVATIONS OF MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE.

[NOTE.—In cases to which Military Representative assents, he should write "I assent to the application." Where he objects to the application he should state briefly the reasons for his objection. If an absolute Certificate is applied for and the Military Representative considers that only a conditional or temporary Certificate should be granted he should state his reasons.]

Not assented to.

Signature

*Richd. Ross Major
Kullibay, Rep.*

Date

10/3/16

The Military Representative must send this form duly filled in to the Tribunal within the time required by the Regulations under the Act.

MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1916.

**Form to be sent by Military Representative to
Local Tribunal.**

Name (in full) of man in respect of whom application made to Tribunal

Alexander Ramage Carroll

Number of case quoted on Application

128

Date on which Notice of application received by Military Representative

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[NOTE.—In cases to which Military Representative assents, he should write "I assent to the application." Where he objects to the application he should state briefly the reasons for his objection. If an absolute Certificate is applied for and the Military Representative considers that only a conditional or temporary Certificate should be granted he should state his reasons.]

Not assented to.

Signature

*Richd. Ross Major
Kulibay, Rep.*

Date

10/3/16

The Military Representative must send this form duly filled in to the Tribunal within the time required by the Regulations under the Act.

This form may be used by attested men and by men applying under the Military Service Act, 1916.

Name of Appeal Tribunal _____

Number of Case _____

R-45

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO CENTRAL TRIBUNAL.

Appeal from the decision of the Appeal Tribunal to the Central Tribunal can be made only by leave of the Appeal Tribunal. If permission to appeal has not already been given, the Appeal Tribunal will decide, on receipt of this form, whether to give permission. Notice of appeal should be made not later than three clear days after the decision of the Appeal Tribunal.

TO BE FILLED UP BY APPELLANT.

(The attached duplicate form must also be filled up and sent to the Appeal Tribunal with this form.)

1. Man in respect of whom appeal made.

- (a) Name (in full) *Arthur Goodburn*
(b) Address (in full) *44 Polwath Crescent*
(c) Occupation, profession or business *Engineer's Clerk*
(d) Whether he is attested or not attested *not attested*

2. Grounds on which appeal made. (These, which should be fully stated, should be the grounds on which appeal is made from the decision of the Appeal Tribunal, not the grounds for the original application or for the appeal from the decision of the Local Tribunal.)

- (1) *That the appeal Tribunal ardently accepted the sincerity of my objections, since they never questioned it, or endeavoured to misrepresent me in any way, and that therefore under the act I am entitled to absolute exemption.*
- (2) *I cannot accept the decision, because I earnestly believe that my attitude towards war and my endeavours to have an immediate peace declared is the best service I can render humanity, and therefore must make all sacrifices and give all my strength to that end.*

3. (a) Signature of appellant

Arthur Goodburn

If appeal not made by the man—

- (b) Address of appellant
(c) Occupation, profession, or business.
(If military representative, state so).
(d) If appellant is not the military representative, why appellant acts for the man

Date _____

(s 6157) 5w 2/16 H & S

[P.T.O.]

FOR APPEAL TRIBUNAL.

4. Reasons for the decision of the Appeal Tribunal. (To be signed and dated. It is desired that the reasons be fully stated. It will also be advantageous if the ascertained facts of the case and the exact question at issue are briefly stated.)

*Refuse
of maintenance
11 Aug 1916*

FOR CENTRAL TRIBUNAL.

5. Decision.

7.

Name of Appeal Tribunal _____

Number of Case _____

R-46

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO CENTRAL TRIBUNAL.
(DUPLICATE.)

To be forwarded to the Appeal Tribunal, and, if leave to appeal is given, to be sent by them to the other party to the case.

TO BE FILLED UP BY APPELLANT.

1. Man in respect of whom appeal made.

- (a) Name (in full) *Arthur Woodburn*
(b) Address (in full) *in Polwarth Garrison*
(c) Occupation, profession or business *Engineer Clerk*
(d) Whether he is attested or not attested *not attested*

2. Grounds on which appeal made. (These, which should be fully stated, should be the grounds on which appeal is made from the decision of the Appeal Tribunal, not the grounds for the original application or for the appeal from the decision of the Local Tribunal.)

(1) That the appeal tribunal widely accepted the sincerity of my objections, since they never questioned it or endeavoured to misrepresent me in any way, and has therefore under the act I am entitled to absolute exemption

(2) I cannot accept the decision because I earnestly believe that my attitude towards war and my endeavours to have an immediate peace declared is the best service I can render humanity, and therefore must make all sacrifice and give all my strength to that end.

3. (a) Signature of appellant *Arthur Woodburn*

If appeal not made by the man—

- (b) Address of appellant *in Polwarth Garrison.*
(c) Occupation, profession or business
(If military representative, state so).
(d) If appellant is not the military representative, why appellant acts for the man

Date _____

(35107) 5a 3.26 H.A.S.

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