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WEDNESDAY MAY 2 1917

OUR HEROES

The capture of Vimy Ridge by the Canadians and the subsequent battles in which they took part on the way to Douai, which is the present objective, were among the most stubbornly contested of the whole war, a fact which is sadly indicated by the still growing casualty list. Much has been written and telegraphed about these battles, much will yet be written and when the whole story is told it will be one which Canadians in future ages will read with pride. Already, stories of individual heroism are given which will enable us to measurably appreciate what our young men are capable of in doing and daring and sacrificing, stories which should cause us to be more demonstrative of our pride in our men, more willing to do what we can for them, more ready to cheer them on their return.

A story is told of a corporal in a patrol which had come under the enemy's rifle and machine gun fire, so heavy that to remain where they were meant extermination while to retire was equally hazardous. This corporal, whose name has not been given, exposed himself to the enemy's fire, saying as he did so, "When they see me they will all fire on me, and you boys can then make for cover." It is gratifying to know that although he thus prepared to lay down his life for his comrades, he made his escape although every enemy gun was emptied at him and all his comrades also made their escape. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." This he did in reality although providentially he escaped.

Another, a private in charge of a machine gun under fire ordered his men to take shelter while he worked the gun alone till ordered by a superior officer to leave it. Another machine gunner who when his crew were wiped out and he himself badly wounded went on with his gun and kept up the firing until relief came.

These are only a few of thousands but they represent the spirit in which our boys are doing their work. They are all heroes and doing heroic work. Many have fallen and many more doubtless will fall but the record of their deeds will be stepping stones by which their fellow countrymen will climb to a higher manhood, by which their nation in the years to come will rise to a higher and better standard of nationhood.

The casualty list is growing. Many have fallen and they will be mourned in thousands of homes throughout Canada, but it will be a mourning of pride as well as of sorrow and infinitely more desirable than the mourning, mingled with contempt, for those who at home have fallen in the real sense of the word by shirking their duty. The fall of the slacker in his failure is the most pitiful fall of all; he is the man who henceforth cannot mingle with men, who must consort with his own kind, who cannot face the boys when they return.

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AN ARMY FOR THE FARMS

With reference to our article on "WHAT WE MUST DO," Mr. John O. Hyndman draws our attention to what the United States proposes doing as outlined in the following article in the Boston Monitor:

"The United States has money in plenty; it has munition material in plenty; it has men in plenty; but it is short, and is daily growing shorter, of food. Food is a first essential to the successful prosecution of the war. With all its resources and accumulated wealth in other forms, the United States cannot confidently undertake the task it has voluntarily set itself until it is assured that it can feed its own civil population, and its soldiers and and sailors of all the natons with which it is associated in the conflict.

"The statement that a great shortage in the supply of foodstuffs is threatened is not based upon theory or unsubstantial presumption. Representatives of the largest produce market in the world are agreed upon that point. In the hope of checking the upward trend of prices, all speculative trading on the Chicago Board of Trade has ceased. The president of that institution has been persistent, lately, in declaring that unless the United States Government takes control of the country's food supply, prices will become prohibitive to a large section of the population. J. Ogden Armour, head of the packing house which his father, Philip D. Armour, founded, who is engaged in world-wide traffic, and is familiar with food conditions in all corners of the globe, says, in an interview, that "the people of the United States are not awake to the seriousness of the situation they are facing." According to Mr. Armour, who is undoubtedly a high authority, the food shortage is universal. "The European production," he says, "is cut in half. Argentina has suffered loss. The question of food supply is the most pressing and important one before us. We have entered the war. Our first duty is to see that both our own people and our Allies have food. Government control will bring objections from firms whose profits will be cut, but the individual must suffer to benefit the mass."

"David F. Houston, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, has emphasized the seriousness of the situation. Presidents of agricultural colleges, editors of agricultural newspapers, the National Agricultural Society, and specialists and experts in the food trade, are all agreed that nothing short of a great awakening of the people of the United States to the danger which menaces them can assure the Nation and its people, and other nations and their peoples, against disaster.

"What is the remedy? Mr. Armour proposes Government control of all provisions, as has been advocated in these columns for some time past, and, in addition, a Federal guarantee to the farmers of $1.50 a bushel for wheat, increased crops, meatless days, strict economy in all households, and the cultivation of every available acre.

"Federal control of the food supply would carry everything else with it. It should be comprehensive enough to embrace control, not only over prices to be paid the producer, but over prices to be charged the consumer. It should insure the planting, the cultivation, and the gathering of the crops by a governmentally controlled force of workers. It should embrace the control of the railroads in the work of the movement and distribution of crops. It should eliminate the waste that too often characterizes and disgraces the existing method of carting, shipping, storing and retailing green vegetables and fruit. It should assure a continuous and plentiful supply of food to the hungry millions in the war zone, and it should operate so satisfactorily, from first to last, that the people of the United States will never again be willing to return to a system that enables the unscrupulous speculator and manipulator to prey upon the people. Above all, it should prohibit, at once, definitely, and decisively the worse than waste of food products in the manufacture of drink.

"The counsel which the people and the Government of the United States are receiving from those entirely competent to give advice on the crop and food supply question should be acted on by Congress immediately, for every hour of springtime is precious. If, in the Republic millions shall be found ready to bear arms for duty at home or abroad, other millions should be found ready for the performance of more peaceful, but no less needful, duty on the farm. It should not be a matter of personal choice, but a matter of personal sacrifice for the general good.

"Those who shall enlist for service in the grain and vegetable fields will be no less patriots than those who enlist for service on the battle fronts. Under a system of mobilization for farm duty, the man at the rear will, at last, have a share in the glory that rewards unselfed devotion to one's country and one's ideals.

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POLITICS VERSUS PATRIOTISM

A plain warning to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Quebec followers, that Ontario Liberals are more interested in the war than in schemes for a general election seems to have been uttered by Hon. N. W. Rowell at Hamilton. Explaining his opposition in the Legislature to the holding of provincial by-elections, the Ontario Liberal leader said:

> "We are now entering upon the most critical stage of the war, and during the months of May and June, when it would be necessary to hold these by-elections, our troops will probably be engaged in a life and death struggle with the enemy. If these by-elections were held it would mean that the Premier and other members of the Government during the next two months would be giving much time and thought to these elections, when their time and energies should be devoted to the question of agricultural production and the other urgent problems now facing us. It would also involve my colleagues and myself giving time and thought also to the same matter. Let me repeat what I said in the House: that I would prefer giving my time to assist in the public patriotic work so urgently needed to back up our men at the front and to increase production than to be engaged in by-elections, no matter how great the party success."

All the reasons so forcibly marshalled by Mr. Rowell against holding by-elections during the war apply with double force against the holding of a Dominion-wide election. For if it be harmful and distracting to hold elections in a few constituencies, what can be said of a proposal to hurl the country into the throes of a nation-wide electoral conflict?

Had Mr. Rowell the Ottawa and Quebec situation in mind when he adopted this course of reasoning? Does he perceive the menace to continued Canadian unity in the war in the activity of the Cannons and the Gladus and their ilk in Quebec? Does he believe with that other sturdy Liberal, Dr. Michael Clark, that it is the duty of loyal Canadians today to stand behind the cleareyed purpose of the Prime Minister until the war is won?

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NOTES

A Gopher Day is being advocated. That may be all right; but heaven deliver us from a Gopher Sunday. Between Mother's Sunday, Father's Sunday, Sister's Sunday, to say nothing of Step-Mother's Sunday, which is now mooted, it is becoming very difficult to get even a little of the pure milk of the Word.—Moose Jaw Daily News.

In the opinion of Mr. Alfred Noyes, the English poet, who is now in Toronto, there is only one view in the Old Country about Canada and Canadians. That view is one of amazement. The power of the Dominion, he says, has been a revelation and it is a matter of surprise that Canada has been able to send across so many men. Never, he adds, has he heard a whisper to the effect that Canada had not been doing her full duty.—Toronto News.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, April 28— The Budget speech was delivered in the Commons the other afternoon to a crowded House in so far as members were concerned, but with galleries strangely vacant. Its delivery occupied less than half an hour, and the manner of presentation was decidedly business-like. There were no tariff changes— a bigger grab at war profits—abounding trade figures, and some talk of another war loan. The tax proposed is simply an extension of the business war profits enactment of last year. Sir Thomas White said he proposed to take from all persons, firms and corporations liable under the present act, 50 per cent. of all profits in excess of 15 per cent, but not exceeding 20 per cent per annum, and 75 per cent. of profits in excess of 20 per cent per annum on capital. The present tax is 25 per cent on profits above 7½ per cent. Under the new legislation up to 15 per cent companies will be taxed at the present rate. Between 15 and 20 per cent, the Government will take one half the profits and beyond 20 per cent, three-fourths of the profits. The Government supporters received the Budget with evident pleasure, but when the Opposition got a good look at it there was a hurried demand for palm leaves on that side of the House. Mr. McLean, of Halifax, replied, voicing the scorn of his party at the paucity of fighting material in the speech. The only thing about it which seemed to please him was its brevity. In other respects it was apparently blind in one eye, had the heaves, and could not stand without hitching. Dr. Mike Clark's free trade soul was also roused. All his free trade feathers were greatly ruffled, for isn't he in favor of going after the tariff with a bomb in one hand and a machine gun in the other. The debate is in full swing at the time of writing, with every indication that it will be prolonged.

The records of Sir Thomas White since war began has furnished Canada with a greater reason for pride in her war service and has attracted the outspoken admiration of men of affairs at home and abroad. His Budget speech is worthy of close attention as the pronouncement of a statesman who has mastered the peculiar financial conditions created here by the war. Canada's part in the war is an extremely expensive venture in money as well as in men, and, at the same time, a world situation has been created which renders living expenses abnormally high. War conditions have brought unusual prosperity to certain industries, but Sir Thomas is clearly correct in his statement that in the case of a large number of people salaries have either remained stationary or actually decreased. It follows, as he points out, that federal direct taxation would be a hardship, if not a grave injustice, to this large number of Canadians. As regards the proposal of higher import duties on luxuries, the Finance Minister shows that this course is impossible because of ante-bellum trade arrangements with Allied countries. The principal of higher taxes on excess profits created during the war is undoubtedly sound. Such action will take the money from those who have the best reason to furnish it, and the sacrifice entailed is merely a possible one of restricted industrial development which comes after our industries have been established for the manufacture of munitions and similar necessary war business. The trade and war loans figures given by Sir Thomas afford highly satisfactory evidence of the nation's response to the material opportunities of the war. Canada's ability to finance its own part in the war has added materially to the general prosperity by inviting the belligerent governments to do an unusual amount of buying in this part of the world. Appreciation of the great step forward taken in foreign trade as an evidence of the country's enterprise and strength, is compatible with a necessary recognition of the fact that abnormal conditions largely account for the huge figures describing the trade increase. The duration of the war being uncertain, the thoughtful and conservative financial policy adopted by Sir Thomas White in the Budget of this year must commend itself to most observers.

An 18-year old Ottawa girl named Cecillia Rolls donned male attire one day last week, and made an attempt to enlist in the Ambulance Corps being mobilize here. But there was no beard on the sei little chin, and she was hardly inside the door at the base office when her disguise was penetrated and her chance of getting overseas had evaporated. "Oh, captain, can't I go anyway," she pleaded. "I can't be a nurse, it takes too long for training, and I must do something to avenge my cousins and my brother. We haven't any more men in the family, but I can go, captain, I can go." Being a girl matters in Canada, however, Russia may have her peasant women fighting beside the men, but here there are still men, and the officers finally succeeded in quieting her. She had been working in an Ottawa family since the war broke out. Cecilia said, and battalion after battalion she watched pass through the Capital on their way overseas. She saw her cousins go whom she had been brought up with, and her brother, and all the time she longed to go and fight beside the boys she had played with all through her little girl days. One by one these have been tolled off in the casualties, the cousins all fallen in action, and just a little over a week ago her brother was wounded. It was too much for restraint, and she thought there must be some way of beating the limitations put upon her sex. Mere petticoats couldn't keep her back, so she rifled the closet in which her brother's discarded civilian clothes hung and trusted to luck to get through. Some of the men standing around scouted the idea of the girl really wanting to enlist and put her action down to notoriety-seeking; but her tear-stained face fixed them, and when when she was placed in a carriage to return to her father there was a rousing cheer from those whose difficult business these days is to find men of her calibre.

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A feature of the debates in the Commons the other day was the charge made by Mr. R. B. Bennett, Director General of National Service, that Hon. Geo. P. Graham, Minister of Railways in the Laurier Government, had bargained to hand the Intercolonial Railway over to the Canadian Northern if the Liberal party was returned to power in 1911. Mr. Bennett's accusation against the ex-Minister of Railways came toward the close of a bitter debate on the management of the I. C. R., which was precipitated by a resolution introduced by Mr. Boulay, of Rimouski. "The late Minister of Railways agreed," declared Mr. Bennett, speaking with measured deliberation, "to hand over to the C. N. R., the Intercolonial if the old Government was returned. I have that, not second-hand, but from the people interested themselves." The statement was received with loud Conservative cheers, and absolute silence on the part of the Liberals. Mr. Graham was not in the House, and the sitting adjourned without a reply from him to the charge made. The following day, however, the ex-Minister was in his place and denied the charge. "The charge is without foundation near or remote," he declared with vigor. But Mr. Bennett did not take what he said back, instead he re-iterated the charge more emphatically than ever, declaring that the purchase price even had been fixed, and that all the details are in the archives of the Minister of Finance.

That the policy adopted by the officials of the Militia Department deserved approval is the judgment of Sir Charles Davidson regarding the charge of irregularities in connection with the purchase of socks for the soldiers in the early days of the war. It is true ,according to the report of the war commissioner, that deliveries were accepted which fell short in weight and quality of those purchased before the war, but the reason was simply that there was a shortage of the best wool. Rates ran hand in hand with reduction in quality, and it was only from necessity that lower standards were accepted. With regard to the charge that Col. Cox, of Toronto, had presented fifty horses to the Government which were accepted. These after some time, were rejected,

(Continued on Page 6.)

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by

W. S. Louson,

CHEERING SOMEONE ON.

Don't you mind about the triumphs,
Don't you worry after fame;
Don't you grieve about succeeding,
Let the future guard your name.
All the best in life's the simplest,
Love will last when wealth is gone;
Just be glad that your are living,
And keep cheering someone on.

Let your neighbors have the blossoms,
Let your comrades wear the crown,
Never mind the little setbacks
Nor the blows that knock you down
You'll be there when they're forgotten,
You'll be glad with youth and dawn,
If you just forget your troubles
And keep cheering someone on.

There's a lot of sorrow round you,
Lots of lonesomness and tears;
Lots of heartaches and of worry
Through the shadows of the years;
And the world needs more than triumphs;
More than all the swords we've drawn.
It is hungering for the fellow
Who keeps cheering others on.

—By FOLGER McKINSEY.

WASH GOODS

When the Younger Generation Toes the Mark

Going to have a NEW WASH DRESS this summer?

Patons are showing all the new styles in Wash Goods and Sport Suitings in

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Paisley Voiles

COME IN AND SECURE A BUTTERICK PATERN FOR YOUR NEW SUMMER DRESS

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National Service
FARM HELP

A Bureau for the enrolment of Volunteers for Farm Labour is now open in the Office of Mr. G. J. McCormack, Kent Street, (next Revertel) Charlottetown. An Office is also open at Summerside, and each National Service League throughout the country will be supplied with forms for this work.

Every person who can possibly do so should assist in some manner to increase the production of food supplies this year. Next to enlistment for active service, **this is the most important patriotic duty** which confronts our men and boys today. **Increased Food Production means Increased Fighting Power!**

DO YOUR BIT TOWARDS INCREASING THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD SUPPLIES. Register Now! Stating how much time you are prepared to give, and when.

Boys should have the consent of their parents before giving in their names.

Farmers may apply for Help through this Office, or the nearest branch of the National Service League.

Let everyone co-operate in this important movement. **It is of vital importance** that there should be a **general increase in Production this year**, and by patriotic co-operation everyone can help himself and the country. **Help to Increase Production!**

J. A. MacDONALD,
Director of National Service.

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To City, Town and Village Dwellers in P.E.I.

"A vegetable garden for every home"

Who doesn't enjoy nice fresh juicy vegetables on the table every day! Isn't it well worth everyone's while to grow vegetables this spring? Decide now. Boys and girls, ask your parents for the use of the ground and their help. They will gladly give you both. Grown-ups should plan how to have a garden.

Horticultural societies, lodges, school boards, etc., are invited to encourage vegetable growing by every one. Parents and guardians are requested to give boys and girls their co-operation.

No army could fight very long on an empty stomach. Plentiful supplies of food must reach our heroes in France every day. Besides, there is all Canada to feed, and Great Britain depends largely upon us too. There exists a world shortage of food. Hundreds of thousands of Canadian soldiers are now consumers instead of producers. So you see that every bit of help in growing extra food supplies is of colossal importance. Every home should have a vegetable garden.

Every dollar's worth of vegetables you grow saves money otherwise spent for vegetables or gives you vegetables you would not otherwise have, and thus helps to lower the "high cost of living." Growing vegetables saves the labor of others whose effort is urgently needed for other vital work. Boys, girls, grown-ups—everyone should help. Let the slogan for 1917 be

"A VEGETABLE GARDEN FOR EVERY HOME"

CARTERS' SEED CATALOGUE tells where to get the BEST VEGETABLE SEEDS, how to plant them. Buy CARTERS' "TESTED" SEEDS and get BEST RESULTS.

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