



View of London's Military Camp, 1915

London, in War Time

London, Ontario, as Headquarters of the First Division Military Area of the Dominion, has, since the beginning of the Great War, been privileged to see the mobilization and training of over 50,000 members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. That this City realized this honor and strove to be worthy of it, is shown by the activities of numerous patriotic organizations formed to aid in war work.

Apart from irreparable bereavement in many London homes, over four years of war have dealt lightly with the "Forest City." The fertile farms of Middlesex and the City's varied industries have provided the prosperity which is indicated by all civic records of progress. With the single exception of building, steady increases have been made year by year as in the days before the war, and the amount of money invested in new buildings compares favorably with the averages of other Canadian cities.

Except for the winter of 1914 when, in common with those of the Dominion, London's industries were somewhat disorganized by war conditions, there has been little or no unemployment, and new industrial enterprises decided upon recently, promise profitable occupation for many people. The cost of living, the Government records show, has always been lower here than in other big centres of population, as cost of necessary commodities of life is below that of the average of the Dominion as a whole.

Many fine schools erected before the war broke out, have greatly increased London's educational facilities, which are probably unsurpassed in the Dominion. The Western University at London, has renovated its buildings, extended its equipment and increased its staff, and now affords a University education of the highest type in Arts and Medicine. In the new Technical School the following subjects are taught at evening classes: machine shop practice, tool-making, welding, automobile mechanics, plumbing and steam-fitting, cabinet making, carpentry and joinery, electric wiring, science and electricity, machine draughting, sheet metal draughting, building construction, art, industrial design, show card writing, industrial chemistry, mathematics, dressmaking, millinery, ladies' tailoring, embroidery, cooking and home economics, wood carving, first aid, home nursing, English and arithmetic.

Inspired by the bravery and devotion of the heroic men who have won for the Dominion unmeasured glory, London's Churches of all denominations, Public Institutions and Officials, People and Press, face the future with a renewed realization of responsibility and a sense of lasting obligation to the men who risked their lives and endured suffering for their Country.