

CANADA MUST BUILD SHIPS TO ENSURE VICTORY NOW AND PROSPERITY LATER.

Canada must build ships. To do so is to help to win the war now and to ensure the permanent prosperity of the Dominion later. When the present struggle is finished, there will be another struggle launched, a fight for markets, a fight for overseas trade, a fight which will not be less bitter because it will be fought without guns and shells. The country that has the ships will have an initial advantage in getting the trade. The country that has neglected to provide the ships will be handicapped because it will start the after-war struggle for overseas markets with an initial disadvantage.

After the war there will be a tremendous demand for shipping to freight rebuilding material and raw material and manufactured goods of every kind to Europe. Every nation will be bidding for tonnage and none will have a surplus. Well for those nations that have been able to provide for themselves in this respect. Canada has this opportunity more than almost any of the Allied countries. The United States is similarly circumstanced, and the world knows how the American people are using their chance. The whole country, from the 49th parallel to the Rio Grande, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, is building ships or helping to build them.

Canada must do the same. She is doing splendid work already but she must do more. The Government policy of a national shipbuilding programme must be rigidly adhered to. It must be strengthened wherever possible. The Canadian people from coast to coast must be told that, next to winning the war, the building of ships is the most urgent call of the day.

Canada must build ships. Her people have won a great prestige by their sacrifices and their endurance in the death grapple with German militarism. They have to maintain that prestige, to uphold in the field of trade the reputation so heroically won in the field of war. The existing shipyards must be multiplied and enlarged. They must be kept working to capacity. They must be supplied with all the capital they need. They must be supplied with all the labor they need. If private enterprise comes to the end of its resources, the industry must be stimulated by Government aid, even beyond the present programme.

In one way or another, Canada must have the ships and the men to operate them, and the ships must be built and the men must be trained now. Immediate action is demanded on a far bigger scale than is now being attempted, and it is the duty of the Government to stimulate such action in every possible way. It is the duty of capital to seize what is really one of the finest opportunities it has ever had. It is the duty of the workers to realize what is both a patriotic obligation and a marvellous opportunity.—Frank Wall, in "Shipbuilding and Harbor Construction."

THE CALL OF DEMOCRACY.

"There will never be a free and enlightened state until the state comes to recognize the individual as a higher and independent owner from which all its own power and authority are derived, and treats him accordingly."—Thoreau.

PATRONAGE AND EFFICIENCY IN CIVIL AND MUNICIPAL SERVICE.

Departments would appear to discourage suggestions for improvement in the workings of a department from a junior member. Unfortunately these do not look well upon the office files. Public servants should be told that they are paid for their ideas and every encouragement should be given to them, but ideas of reform must be approved of by the head of the department before they are put into effect. In field work an inspector will understand local conditions better than his chief and his advice should be very carefully considered. If he has grown up with his work, he would be a safe man to give this responsibility.

With a strongly organised department of carefully chosen men who had specialised in their work and had the benefit of both municipal and government experience, there would be created a framework for a government which would give strength, stability and good central authority. Those who are elected by the people will see that such servants will prepare and do their work properly.

DEPENDABLES AND THEIR WORK.

Dr. Elsie Inglis-Women Munition Workers.

Dependability is winning this war.

That sounds good but not too good to be true. Facts warrant the assertion. The great question that faces every woman to-day is: "How many Dependables are there and how do I rank?" The answer to that question shows just how near each one is to the firing line. Women are, to-day, an integral part of the army and navy and are just back of the firing line in France. The reason is because they are dependables.

Some one will say: "Oh! but I do not count! I can't do anything but knit and sew. It takes brains to be a Dependable. "Right you are about the brains but as wrong as can be about your not counting. The war would long since have been won by Germany had there not been, right here in Canada, an immense army of Dependables stretching all the way from Labrador to Alaska and every one of them knitting and serving in the way known only to Dependables. That endless stream of Red Cross supplies that started as soon as war was declared and has never slackened is testimony enough to the existence of Dependables in Canada. The comforts for soldiers bear witness to the fact that there is a dependable generosity in Canada which links it right up to the trenches in spite of the intervening Atlantic.

Being a Dependable consists in the determination to be a Dependable. It was that one thing that marked the difference between Dr. Elsie Inglis, who died last November, and thousands of other women of equal ability and training. It was her dependability which caused her to accomplish a task which will forever be the highwater mark of a Scottish woman's devotion to duty and humanity. It was nothing but dependability that enabled her to lead 8,000 Serbian soldiers safely to England from Roumania by a circuitous route through Finland because of possible ambush laid by the revolting Russians. Transportation, nursing, supplies, everything was superintended by this capable woman, and when the end was gained she paid for the success with her life.

"For every shell you fail to send over ten of us are killed," was the message from the trenches soon after the war began. Germany was sending ten shells to our one. English women read the message and read between the lines also. They know that, sooner or later, it would be their work, their privilege to make those shells. Without even waiting to make sure that anyone else felt as they did about the matter they began preparing themselves to make munitions. They trained along the same lines as men. They were skilled workers when the munition factories opened their doors to women. There is the secret of the wonderful work of support and substitution carried on by British women the world over. They trained themselves and became dependable. One million English women volunteered for munitions making and Canada answered with her thousands of Dependables.

The world with difficulty accustomed itself to the thought of women facing real danger and doing arduous work. Women faced it because of some loved one in the trenches or some grave "over there." Scarcely had the army of munition workers commenced its magnificent work when another army of a quarter million organized to do whole or part-time work on the land. The same spirit of dependability that guided the other women workers characterized this new body. They prepared themselves for the work in hand and resolved to "see it through." Last summer saw the beginning of a land army of women in Canada and the coming summer will witness both an increase in the number of workers and a taking on of more kinds of work because of wide spread organization.

To-day, in England there is almost no branch of work in which women are not employed and in no place have they failed to make good. The quality of their work is excellent and, in some cases, the output has more than doubled that of men. Even quarrying and mining are open to women to-day and, in Canada the same condition will exist if the war continues. But every one knows that the Canadian woman is a real Dependable!