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## THE RETURNED SOLDIER.

We are naturally hopeful that the greater number of our comrades overseas will, after the war is over, return to Canada. In any case, and if our hopes are not realised to the full extent, there will be thousands of our boys return to us, enough to affect the labour market materially.

The country, during the war has been "carrying on" in spite of labour shortage caused by enlistments, and in the face of increased demand on production for munitions. It is true that maintenance has been neglected in favour of production and a great deal of repair work, necessitating labour, will have to be undertaken at the close of hostilities. We must also realise that our manufacturers, faced with labour shortage during the war, have adopted woman labour to a large extent and have created machinery to minimise labour, thus cutting down to a minimum the demand for men.

The combination of circumstances caused by the war bring us face to face with a problem as to the returned soldier. He must be provided for; and if improved machinery, woman labour and conservation methods, adopted during the war have brought about a condition whereby the returned man cannot return to his usual employment, then some other work must be provided; and it is only his due that provision be made so that he can take his place again as a proper citizen.

The returned soldier must not however be pampered, he does not wish it. He must not be pauperised by any method or provision that will give him the "bulge", on any consideration, his wish is not along these lines, but if he finds that conditions have changed to such an extent that it is hard and perhaps impossible for him to fit into his old groove, then he is right in demanding that a prospect be open to him whereby he can properly and adequately support himself and his dependants, and take up the burden of citizenship.

We, as soldiers have very little to fear on this score. The Great War Veteran Association, with headquarters at Winnipeg we believe are working along lines which will be, we think, productive of good results. This organisation has for one of its objects the proper care of and provision for the returned soldier; and it has already placed before the Federal Government proposals dealing with the question of land and money grants, with certain privileges as to freight rates, stock, agricultural implements, etc. This spring should see the commencement of the returned soldiers land scheme, the sooner the better.

We cannot all go on to the land of course, but if provision of this kind is made for a large number of men it will make the problem of labour less acute in the manufacturing industries.

We have, at present very little information to hand as to the real work the Great War Veteran's Association is doing, or attempting to do. Any constructional work, towards bettering the lot of the returned soldier is commendable but we reserve until a later date our remarks as to its work as a whole.

SHOES SHIPS AND  
SEALING WAX

The Depot is all the brighter, St. Johns more livable and the weather much easier to bear, now that we have a piper on our 8.30 parade. You could tell at a glance on Thursday morning by watching the feet, where the Scotch were. How our R.S.M. ever expects us to stop that shuffling in the ranks is beyond our comprehension. My, but the music was gr-r-r-r-r-and! As Para Handy would say, "Chust sublime". Lord knows what would have happened had our piper friend come round here this summer when we had a glorious collection of hillanmen in captivity. Something would have happened we are sure. Just imagine the joy of bounding out of our tents to the tune of "Johnny Cope", having lunch to "Mrs. McLeod of Rassay" and taking our evening tippie like little gentlemen with he of the pipes outside the local hostelry—a habit of pipers we believe—to the stirring strathspey of Neil Gows "Farewell to Whuskey"!

With all this display of talent on our morning assembly, why not go the whole hog and work in a few more "turns". How would this go.

Prayers—Capt. Powell.

Opening Address—Maj. Milne—of course.

Burlesque Parade Taking—Mr. Mott—very comic.

Highland Fling—C.S.M. Evans—without boots.

During this period R.S.M. hands out oranges to troops.

Selection. Band.

Proceedings to conclude by a dog fight.

We saw our friend Wooley yesterday resplendent in Bandolier and Spurs making his way to town to give the ladies a treat. He'd better keep his weather eye on Sims as the bold lad who ties the officers class in knots intends to call his bluff and put him on a horse one of these days. We vaguely suspect that the only thing our orderly room friend ever rode was the blind baggage but all the same, should he seriously intend taking up equitation in those brief periods when he allows the typewriter to cool off—why—the staff will be right up in front to see him canter and take the rear.

## WE WANT TO KNOW

What kind of a noise annoys an oyster? (Ask Mr. Gallaher, O.C. Class 34.)

## SURVEY AND ASTRONOMY.

## Practical Hints to Observers.

Many of the men at the E. T. D. have in other—and possibly happier—days swung a transit or a level as a means of gaining a hard but honest livelihood. Among these the following anonymous contribution may perhaps strike a responsive chord.

If the instrument refuses to transmit, grasp the telescope with both hands and force it as far as possible. Then tap gently with a boulder, assisted where possible by the application of a crow-bar. Should this prove ineffectual, talk gently to the theodolite while an assistant approaches quietly and hooks the six inch tackle of a steel gin under the horizontal cross hair, and assist as before with the crow-bar and boulder.

It will then be found that the vertical arc clamp was not released, and the scale has been obliterated on half the arc. The other half must then be used. This explains why the scale is cut on both sides.

If the bubble refuses to level after the successive efforts of the whole party, break the glass and remove it altogether—it will serve to simplify the calculations.

If the legs appear to be unsteady, lean the instrument against a tree and continue to observe.

On a dull day the cross hairs may appear dim. If so remove them and substitute a boot lace.

When reading the angles between two points, the initial reading should never be 0° 0' 0". To ensure avoiding this mistake, scratch out the "zero" on the scale and call it 10° 7' 13.5". The instrument may then be set to this reading without the slightest danger.

When returning the instrument to its box, the lid will probably not close. In this case the offending parts should be unscrewed and thrown away, and the lid closed and locked.

If a reading arouses any suspicion place a detective on the spot with explicit orders to shoot at sight.

"We determine the altitude angles

At noon when they fire the gun,  
Like a father whose boy has the measles,

We are looking for spots on the sun."

AZIMUTT.

If all the shoestrings of the allied armies were made into one shoestring, it would pass seventeen and a quarter times around the earth.—Judge.