

Vast Issues Depend Upon the Welfare of Our Boys

TRY to picture yourself in the muddy cold trenches after exciting days and long nights of mortal danger and intense nervous strain. Rushing "whiz-bangs" and screaming "coal boxes" are no respecters of persons. You are hit! But despite shock and pain you still can face the long weary trudge back to dressing station. Weary, overwrought and depressed you are prey to wild imaginings of that other coming ordeal with the surgeon. There are other "walking wounded," too! You must wait, wait, wait. And then—

Up comes a cheery Y.M.C.A. man, the ever present big brother to the soldier, with words of manly encouragement. Close beside the dressing station the good, generous folks at home have enabled him to set up a canteen. He hands you biscuits, and chocolate or coffee.

"In thousands of cases," writes an officer, "it was that first hot cup of coffee that dragged the man back to life and sanity!"

The tremendous helpfulness of the Y.M.C.A. as an aid to the "morale," or fighting spirit, of the soldiers is everywhere praised. No wonder the Germans make every effort to smash the Y.M.C.A. huts out of existence.



Cheer Up, and Thank God for the Y.M.C.A.!

Y.M.C.A. Red Triangle Fund \$2,250,000, May 7, 8, 9 Canada Wide Appeal

The Y.M.C.A. is everywhere. You first met the helpful manly Y.M.C.A. worker in camp, then on train and boat, at camp in England and in France, close to the firing line. Often he risks his life to reach you in the trenches. He has won the warmest praise from military authorities, statesmen—the King!

Have you a precious boy at the front? You cannot be "over there" to guide him away from fierce temptations of camp and city. You cannot comfort him in his supreme hour of trial. Your parcels to him are necessarily few. But the Y.M.C.A., thank God, is "over there," going where you cannot go—doing the very things you long to do—doing it for you and for him.

Will you help? This vast organization of helpfulness needs at least \$2,250,000 from Canada for 1918. For your boy's sake, be GENEROUS!!

Brief Survey of Y.M.C.A. Service to Soldiers

Branches in 20 Forestry Camps established last year.

Y.M.C.A. nightly under fire in many places.

300,000 letters a day written in Y.M.C.A. buildings.

Troops furnished with athletic equipment (helps morale of troops).

Entertainments, Bible classes, sing-songs, good night services and personal interviews conducted by Y.M.C.A. workers.

Y.M.C.A. Red Triangle Clubs in Toronto, St. John, Montreal

and other cities for returned soldiers and enlisted men.

Y.M.C.A. service extends from Vancouver to the firing line and then back to patients in hospitals until men are discharged.

Y.M.C.A. Secretaries accompany troop trains.

Between 400 and 500 millions of letters and cards written and posted in Y.M.C.A. tents, huts and dugouts since war began.

Splendid service to boys in Canadian Camp hospitals. Regular sing-songs and inspirational addresses with distributions of magazines, fruit, chocolates, gum, books and smokes.

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