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Special Articles

- The Minimum Wage.
By W. W. SWANSON.
- National Research.
By W. B. CAMPBELL.
- Conditions in the West.
By E. CORA HIND.

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The Contribution of the Colleges

WITHIN a few weeks' time the colleges of the country will re-open. For the most part they are but a shadow of their former selves, due to the fact that our centres of learning have made splendid contributions to the cause of freedom.

In the early days of the war, when the call went forth for recruits, the readiest response came from the college men, the lads whose patriotism and sense of responsibility made them go out like young Crusaders. Even since conscription went into force the average college man being of military age has joined the colors in large numbers.

From the University of Toronto over 4,000 graduates and undergraduates have gone overseas, from Old McGill some 2,500 have gone to swell the ranks of the "Princess Pats," the Flying Forces, the Tank Battalions, the Heavy Siege Batteries and other military organizations; from Queens, Dalhousie and the other colleges throughout the country similar responses have been made. In addition to that, the faculties of the various colleges have been seriously depleted. The Allies have demanded the best, with a result that many of our doctors, dentists, chemists, scientists and other leaders in college activities have gone overseas to do their bit.

Canada owes an inestimable debt to her college men. While not depreciating in any sense the splendid response of the laboring men, the artisan, the clerk, or the farm lad it is generally assumed that our colleges contain the flower of our young manhood, and they have given themselves with out let or hindrance. We who remain behind should at least see that the colleges receive adequate support, while the bulk of the students are overseas doing their bit.

In the days to come it is to the colleges that we must look for leadership if the Hun is to be ousted from his former place in the scientific world. In college laboratories and research work, must come the solution of the economic and scientific problems now associated with German domination. All honor to the college men for the part they have played in the titanic struggle.

The Thrift Campaign

THE Dominion Government is now conducting a campaign for the encouragement of thrift among the people of the country. It is somewhat late in the day to start such a campaign, but doubtless the Government have gone on the assumption that "it is better late than never." Certainly there is need of the exercise of thrift among the Canadian people.

The war has brought prosperity to a great many people, but, at the same time has enhanced prices to a very marked extent. In a very large measure the increased prosperity is an artificial one, much as if a grave digger and an undertaker were to come together in the midst of a pestilence, rub their hands and exclaim, that "business is good." Munition workers, textile operators and others catering to the war needs of the nation have prospered exceedingly, but in a measure it is through the flesh and blood of our own people.

This war prosperity cannot last. It is very probable that manufacturers will profit by the experience they have gained through the years of war and will turn to new markets and to new activities, but there must come a period of re-adjustment which will try the resources of the ordinary worker. It is therefore most imperative that the people of the country should be educated in the principles of thrift. A dollar saved and profitably invested is a silver bullet to help defeat the Hun, while a dollar wasted is that much of a contribution to the cause of the Huns.

Thrift has not always been a popular doctrine to preach in Canada. A few years before the war, when we were all living in a fool's paradise and wasting our substance like prodigal sons, a fearless and progressive newspaper in a certain city in Canada started a series of articles on thrift. The series had only got properly started when the advertising manager of a rival paper went around to all the merchants and pointed out the dangerous propaganda being preached by its contemporary; telling the merchants that the people were being educated to hoard their money in the banks, and not spend it. The opposition to the thrift campaign was so pronounced that the newspaper was reluctantly forced to discontinue it. We would wonder if that paper who decried the thrift propaganda of a few years ago will take the Government's thrift advertising in the present campaign?

We wish the thrift campaign every success. It is something that needed preaching and practising in Canada, but at no time more than during the present titanic struggle.

Roosevelt on Peace Terms

COLONEL Theodore Roosevelt is determined that Germany shall pay the extreme penalty for her crimes against civilization. In a recent speech in New York he reiterated his former assertions that Germany must be forced to make good the losses she has caused to the nations of Europe.

Among the many things demanded of Germany by the former United States' president were, the restoration of Belgium, the return of Alsace-Lorraine to France, the re-building