

THOUGHTS BY THE WAY

Women and the War

Written for The Ontario by "Wayfarer."

The activity of women in various departments of work during the present great war has elicited much favorable comment from even those who have hitherto insisted that "the home alone is woman's sphere." But the needs of the present hour demand, not only the courage and bravery of our country's manhood, but calls also for the finer sympathy and kinder ministrations of our loyal women. The Florence Nightingales of the twentieth century are continuing the kindly care of the wounded soldiers—a work inaugurated during the Crimean War. Women's finer susceptibilities and instincts, together with her innate motherliness, fit her pre-eminently for the duties of nurse, while those who stay at home, with hearts that beat in sympathy for our brave wounded and dying, are showing themselves ever ready by sending necessities and luxuries to our boys at the front. The need of the hour has awakened Canadian women to a sense of their great responsibility as evidenced in their numerous activities. It seems a feminine characteristic to sympathize with those in pain or distress and to endeavor to relieve it. Women, careless and capricious in times of peaceful ease, suddenly become kind, anxious and solicitous in the stress and strain of war.

"Oh, woman, in our hours of ease, Uncertain, coy and hard to please, And variable as the shade By the light, quivering aspen made: When pain and anguish wring the brow, A ministering angel thou!"

And if there are Canadian women who are careless and indifferent in these pressing times, it is probably because the war has not touched their hearts and their homes, and the war being to them so remote, they cannot realize that Canada is actually engaged. They have become accustomed to the mustering of soldiers, the blowing of bugles and the beating of drums, but do not comprehend the true significance of it all—the sacrifice and suffering of many of our best and bravest. As M. Viviani, Minister of Justice of France, speaking at Ottawa recently said: "I realize that you are farther away than we are from the battlefields. The roar of guns does not reach your ears. You do not see the return of hosts of wounded men. But, morally speaking, you are just as close as we are to the fray."

The activity and interest of the women in realizing distress among our soldiers, have assumed many and varied forms, not the least important being the raising of money for patriotic purposes. Perhaps the most exacting and exciting of all these undertakings is soliciting cash donations or disposing of tickets for concerts and entertainments. This brings into play all the tact, ingenuity and diplomacy that the average woman can muster and also gives a knowledge of the peculiar characteristics of individuals.

A recent canvass for such a purpose, although meeting with a most generous response from the majority, left however, the strong impression that the Canadian people have not yet awakened to a sense of the responsibility and to the crying need for help in this the greatest of wars. Some of the excuses for withholding donations were the misappropriation of funds collected, the multiplicity of previous gifts and the many demands for money for patriotic and church purposes. Some, with tears in the voice if not in the eyes, would recount their manifold gifts to their country's cause, in this way thinking to free themselves from our importunity. A few there were who met our solicitations most pleasantly, wishing as every success, but at the same time failing to respond with the ready cash.

But the instances just recited were the exception and not the rule. The courtesy of the men and the sympathy of the women were most apparent in both our rural and urban canvasses. Very willingly were our demands complied with and the people's sympathies were touched on hearing of some of the sufferings of our wounded boys at the front. It is said that "Love makes the world go round," but I am sure sympathy helps a great deal. A lady with a family of little ones about her clinging to her skirts, responded liberally to our appeal for help for the boys as, with tears in her eyes, she gazed

fondly at the little group about her. Such instances were many in our experience that day—women's hearts drawn out in sympathy to the sons of other women, wounded and lying on the battlefields of Europe.

Our canvass led us into homes where the greatest gift had been made to this cruel war, the gift of a beloved son. We would scarcely ask a further gift from the mother, who had proudly, although sorrowfully, given up her eldest son to fight for king and country.

"Yes," she said in response to our appeal, "I will buy a ticket, but I can't attend the concert. Oh! I really couldn't listen to the addresses and patriotic songs since my boy has gone with the troops." And as the tears flowed freely, our hearts beat in sympathy with this little mother, who with all her anguish was proud of her boy.

"But," she continued "the younger boy wants to go too, but I feel as if I cannot spare them both." But the second and youngest son has since gone to fight for king and country. Further on the car carried us, until my companion said, "we must call here. This lady and I were friends in girlhood." And here in another home was another mother who had given her son to fight for his country. Willingly did she give the money for the tickets, which seemed so trifling a gift beside that of her only son. With tears she spoke of the absent one and my companion in bidding her friend adieu, wept in sympathy. Oh! this cruel war! How many homes are left lonely!

But a sadder scene awaited us. In a pretty village home we found the father and mother mourning their only son. On the parlor wall we were shown the roll of honor, with a picture of the stalwart young recruit. The words "Killed in Action" and Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" were conspicuous on the roll of honor. That was all the parents had left of a once handsome, stalwart son. But no, not all. The remembrance of the brave spirit will ever live in the hearts of the lonely parents.

Then we drove on, our hearts saddened by the sorrow we had seen, but our determination stronger, "to do our bit" to end this cruel war. Even the waiting auto seemed animated by the same ambition as it sped more swiftly and easily on its way.

And now the boy of our party leaves us at the station to take the train to resume his studies in the city. Good-byes are said, and the boy, both to part from home and loved ones, with difficulty restrains his tears. As we wave him a pleasant good-bye and as the motor speeds on, the elder brother turning to the mother said, "It was hard to have him go."

"Yes," was the reply in trembling voice, but not half as hard as it will be when you go with the soldiers."

Turning to her, after a second's pause, he said, "Yes, but, mother, you wouldn't be proud of me if I did not go." And he is now gone, serving with the Royal Naval Air Service, "Somewhere in France."

And as we journeyed swiftly homeward, recounting the success of our canvass, our thoughts naturally turned to the Canadian homes made lonely because of the absence and loss of young manhood, of the dead on lying on the battlefields of Europe and of the young Canadian who are now hearing the call and preparing to respond in the hour of their country's need. And as we thought of the heroism and sacrifice of these women, we were glad that, although only women, we might have some part in the fight for freedom, justice and liberty were it only the insignificant work of disposing of tickets for a patriotic concert—Wayfarer.

CANADIAN RAILROADS ARE WATCHING RATE INCREASE CASE AT WASHINGTON
New Freight Rates Asked For by U. S. A. Lines Will Fall \$75,000,000 Short of Estimated Expenses For Present Year
Washington, May 12.—The estimated increase in expenses for the year 1917 on five United States railroads was given to the Interstate Commerce Commission as \$133,500,000. This total covers the five largest Eastern carriers, who in common with other United States lines, are asking for a fifteen per cent advance in railroad rates.

of revenues that will accrue from the rate advances are as follows:
Estimated Increase in Expenses, 1917
Pennsylvania . . . \$51,800,000
New York Central . . . 42,700,000
Baltimore & Ohio . . . 16,600,000
New Haven . . . 12,300,000
Erie . . . 10,000,000

Total for 5 Systems \$133,500,000
Increased Revenues From Rate Advances . . . \$39,141,000

Pennsylvania . . . \$39,141,000
New York Central . . . 33,247,000
Baltimore & Ohio . . . 12,736,000
New Haven . . . 5,102,000
Erie . . . 6,915,000

Total for 5 Systems \$97,191,000
On these five roads the advance sought will fall \$36,000,000 short of the increase of 1917 operating expenses over 1916, while taking all the United States roads the advance would fall by \$75,000,000 to cover the increased expenses.

Detailed financial exhibits were presented to the Commission showing that the railway rate of income has been declining steadily for some years, due to the fact that while rates for service remain stationary, the cost of producing transportation rose steadily. By increased efficiency of operation the carriers had been able to counteract rising expenses. The average tractive power of locomotives had been increased 50 per cent, the average capacity of freight cars 40 per cent, and the average freight train load 72 per cent. The diminishing return on railway investments had contracted the flow of new capital into the industry, however, and made proper development very difficult.

Mr. Samuel Rea, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad System, speaking of the necessity for fair dividends for the railroads, said: "An emergency exists, not temporary but continuing which affects transportation in such a way as to require prompt relief through increased net earnings."

Alfred H. Smith, President of the New York Central Lines, pointed out the difficulties the railroads have been experiencing. "If we had been able," he said, "to do many of the things that we know needed to be done the capacity of the railroads would not be much greater. But the capital was not to be had, at least at rates which we could afford to pay."

"I do not wish to appear as an alarmist. The problem must and will be solved in some way. But there is a changed situation, by which our operating income is reduced to half of what it was last year."

Representatives of the Canadian railroads are at Washington watching the proceedings before the Commission with the keenest interest. The tremendous increase in the price of coal, wages and materials have been common to Canada as well as to the United States, and the officials of the American roads appreciate the fact that the burden of increased expenses is made additionally heavy for the Canadian lines by reason of duties and war taxes which must be paid upon coal and other commodities entering Canada. A general increase for both Canadian and United States lines is confidently anticipated here.

ALGONQUIN PARK
Only 200 miles north of Toronto, is beautiful Algonquin Park. With an altitude of 2000 feet above the sea level the air is pure and bracing. Just the spot for rest and recuperation. The Highland Inn offers splendid accommodation. Handsome publication free on application to C. E. Morning, Union Station, Toronto.

CASUALTIES
Killed in Action:
H. H. Werry, Bowmanville
D. W. Graham, Renfrew
Died of Wounds:
C. McGonetta, Belleville
F. Rice, Morrisburg
W. Gordon, Madoc
Wounded and Missing:
G. A. McGee, Stirling
Wounded:
H. Evans, Belleville
G. Smith, Oshawa
J. B. Naylor, Madoc
L. Comeau, Trenton
J. G. Higgins, South Oshawa
R. J. Gibbs, Port Hope
R. McIntyre, Renfrew
W. M. Robinson, Peterboro
N. A. Hutt, Cornwall
J. W. Walters, Consocon
F. Gallagher, Oshawa
J. L. Levesque, Renfrew
D. Crowe, Oshawa
A. J. Grier, Tweed
A. Mack, Picton
S. Ault, Ingonquois
F. Hubbs, Trenton
Edgar Stapley, Belleville

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Doyle and family have returned from a pleasant holiday trip to Buffalo.

CAMPBELLFORD
A quiet wedding was solemnized at the Methodist parsonage on Monday morning, when Miss Olive M. Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dupcan Thompson, was united in marriage to Mr. Henry M. Meiklejohn, of Detroit, formerly of Campbellford. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. R. Sanderson and the young couple were unattended.

Lieut. Chas. Payne, O.C. of the Eighth Draft of the Cobourg Heavy Battery, spent Sunday at his home here.

An action under an insurance policy has been brought at Osgoode Hall by Mrs. T. J. Hopkins, of town, against the Capital Insurance Co., of Ottawa, to recover \$2,000. The money claimed, the plaintiff states, is the amount due on two life insurance policies of \$1,000 each held by her late son, Capt. Dr. R. E. Hopkins, who was killed at the Battle of the Somme on September 27 last. The many friends of Lieut. Frank Nanarrow, son of Mrs. Chas. Nanarrow, will be pleased to hear that he expects to be granted leave in a month or two and may be able to come back to Canada. Lieut. Nanarrow has been in Gransville-Special Canadian Hospital, Ramsgate, since last November, suffering from an injured knee. An operation was recently performed, but Frank is still unable to walk. A few days ago he attempted to move around on crutches but was forced to give up. We sincerely hope that his strength may permit him to make the journey home when he receives the leave which he so well deserves.

On Friday last the sad news was received by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Stewart that their eldest son, Pte. Robt. F. Stewart, had died of wounds on April 12. The news cast a gloom over the whole community as the deceased soldier was well known and a general favorite about town. Pte. Stewart enlisted here in April of last year and qualified as Lieutenant at the P.S.I. in Kingston. He resigned his rank in order to go overseas. After arriving in England in September he stayed training with his unit for a short time but was drafted to France in January. He had been in the trenches three months when he was called upon to make the supreme sacrifice. Before enlisting Pte. Stewart was on the staff of the local branch of the Standard Bank, of which his father is manager. He was in the twenty-first year of his age. Besides his parents, he is survived by one brother, Mr. Gordon Stewart, of London, Ont.—The News.

Mr. Harold Saunders and Miss Harold, of Belleville, and Mrs. Goodwill, of Peterboro, motored from Belleville on Sunday and spent the day at the home of Mrs. T. S. Forte. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Staback intend removing to Stirling to reside since coming to Campbellford Mr. and Mrs. Staback have made many friends who will regret their departure.

The annual meeting of the Campbellford District of the Methodist Church will be held in the Church here today. The ministers will meet in session at 10 o'clock and a joint meeting of the ministers and lay delegates from the various circuits will be held in the afternoon, when statistical reports for the year will be received. Delegates will also be chosen to attend the conference in Picton next month.

Lieut. Col. Gillespie, of Kingston, inspected the High and Public School Cadets on Wednesday last week. He expressed himself as well pleased with the proficiency of both schools. Some of the boys who are going on the farms for the summer, have left for their jobs in the country.

A meeting in the interest of production was held on Friday night last. Mayor Cairns presided. Reports were given by those who had been appointed in the various wards to ascertain if there were any vacant lots not likely to be cultivated. Of 24 lots of Mr. Cummings about 18 were reported taken. The land was plowed at the expense of the town. A few other lots were reported not taken but in most instances every available lot will be planted or sown. Our chief constable, Mr. D. Wright informs us that he has received several anonymous letters lately, most of which refer to the enforcement of the Temperance Act. There is nothing made by anonymous letters. If those who write them would quietly go to the Constable and give him some definite information on which to act we believe much good would result, as Mr. Wright would be in duty bound to act on the information received and the name of the informant need not be disclosed. Persons are reminded that information must be definite and that generalities are useless. Mr. Wright cannot

be expected to act upon general statements, nor is it reasonable to suppose he will pay any attention to anonymous letters.—The Herald.

68 YEARS AN ODDFELLOW
Mr. A. Appleby, of Cobourg has been presented with a 65-year Veteran's Jewel from Cumberland Lodge, No. 30, Independent Order Odd Fellows, of Bridgton, Maine. Bro. Appleby, who is 89 years old, joined that lodge in 1849 and has been a member for over 68 years. In the 95 years of its existence, Bro. Appleby is the 44th member to attain this unique distinction in the Order. The presentation was made on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary by Cobourg Lodge.

KINGSTON WOMAN'S TRAGIC DEATH
Mrs. S. W. Day, Kingston, met a tragic death last Saturday afternoon. She lit a match in a dark corner of the cellar to locate the cause of an offensive odor. Her woollen wrapper caught fire, and she was suffocated and badly burned. Her husband entered the house shortly afterwards and made the terrible discovery. She leaves two sons and one daughter in Kingston. One son, Ernest, is a lay partner with W. F. Nickle, M.P., and the other is Dr. H. E. Day. Her youngest son was Lieut. Calvin E. Day, of the 2nd Battalion, the first Kingston officer to fall on the Western front at the Battle of Langemarck.

HYDRO TO DISTRIBUTE POWER TO EMILY FARMERS
The Hydro-Electric Power Commission has written the Emily Council to the effect that consequent upon an agreement with the village of Omeenee for the distribution of power for electric light etc., in the village, and erection of a substation for this purpose, they would be in a position to distribute power to farmers within a certain radius of the village. It was suggested that a meeting be called of the farmers interested at an early date.

Emily Council decided to leave the matter over until the farm crop seeding was completed.

LIQUOR CASE AT BRIGHTON
The case brought by Inspector Geo. Goodrich against Omar Bergvin for violating the Ontario Temperance Act, before Police Magistrate Geo. Dewry, at Brighton, on Thursday, 17th inst., resulted in the defendant being fined \$200 and costs; and that brought against Edmund Laramée was dismissed.—Edsign.

MADOC
Mr. and Mrs. Gomer West, of Madoc township, received the sad news last week that their son, Pte. E. J. West, had fallen on the battlefield in France.

Mrs. B. Sargent and son, Beverly, left last week to spend a few months in Toronto.

The Women's Institute gave a Pan-cake Tea on Saturday last and realized the sum of \$70.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Connor, of Madoc, were week-end guests at the home of Mr. M. W. Connor.

All the soldiers of the Madoc Platoon, 254th Battalion, were home on their last leave during the past week prior to leaving with the rest of the Battalion for points unknown.

Pte. Wallace Gordon, of Eldorado who was reported wounded, has since died of wounds. Pte. Gordon figured in the famous Vimy Ridge battle and it was in this that he received his fatal wounds.

At the annual meeting of the Academy of Medicine, Dr. D. J. Gibb Wishart was elected President for the season of 1917-18. The Doctor's many friends in Madoc will be pleased to learn of his election to this honorable position.

The many friends of Pte. John Naylor will regret to learn that he has been officially reported wounded.

At the regular meeting of Madoc Lodge, I.O.O.F., No. 149, on Monday evening last the following brethren were presented with veteran jewels in recognition of 25 years' service to their lodge and fellow-workers: W. H. Richardson, Tweed; W. F. Parnell, Eldorado; T. H. Thompson and Jas. English, Madoc. A number of visiting brethren from Tweed, Frankford and Millbridge were present. D.D.G. M., G. S. Bartlett, of Tweed, was also present. A very pleasant evening was spent during which refreshments were served.—The Review.

Worms cause fretfulness and rob the infant of sleep, the great nourisher. Mother Graves' Exterminator will clear the stomach and intestines and restore healthfulness.



Y. M. C. A. Huts Back of the Firing Line in France. British Weekly says this line of Y.M.C.A. Huts is "The Bulwark of the Army."

IMPERIAL ORGANIZATION
The Imperial Conference, so-called, ends its labors with an announcement abounding in bombastic phrases, from which we gather that an agreement has been made to standardize military stores, to set up in London a Mines Bureau, and to promote communication by means of ship subsidies. But Imperial federation or, more elaborately in the language of the announcement, readjustment of the constitutional relations of the component parts of the Empire, is too important and intricate a subject to be dealt with during the war.

The agitation is to be kept on foot here. President Falconer announces, by strengthening the desire for federation, but in constant dread of the matter getting into politics. For our part we cannot imagine that "a matter of such transcendent importance," as Mr. Falconer calls it, can be settled in any other way. He really assured that the directors of the Bank of Commerce, who have the transcendent matter in hand, do not contemplate a party use of it, in the next election, if it suits their purpose?

Mr. Falconer believes that there are only three possible developments before us, to wit, independence, annexation and Imperial federation, and he would have us choose now. There is another alternative, which there is no reason to overlook, that of remaining as we are and developing our relations with the Empire in the natural English way, as they have developed during the past fifty years.

The thinking of the Round Table is apparently not keen, to judge from Mr. Falconer's obtuseness about nationality. True Imperialism, he says, is not opposed to nationality. Nationality, according to all the authorities outside of the Round Table cult, involves recognition as one of the family of nations and the right and power as well as the duty of conducting freely and independently foreign relations and making, if need be, defence or offence. We do not know how Canada is to become a nation by the Imperialistic route, and we think it significant of the impossibility of anyone's ever knowing how, that the Imperialists, after forty years in the desert, have no suggestion to make.—Toronto Weekly Sun.

AIR CRAFT IN WAR
What part air craft are playing in the war other than as scouts and guides for artillery are a matter enveloped in much doubt. The failure of the Zeppelins as offensive weapons is very generally conceded, and it is significant that the construction of these ships in Germany has long since been abandoned. The destruction of the one shot down in the North Sea yesterday marks the end of the thirty-ninth brought down during this war.

But it is beginning to be questioned whether the heavier type of aeroplane, the battle plane, mounting guns of sometimes three inch calibre, or carrying the heavy torpedoes, is proving much more of a success than the Zeppelins. At the opening of the war there was much talk of aeroplanes of this type. They were of public interest not only because of what they promised in war but because their design would be readily adaptable to the purposes of peace. A machine capable of carrying two guns and a crew of thirty-five men, such as the British are reported to have built in some numbers, would serve a useful purpose in passenger service in

peaceful days. But it is reported that the construction of these machines has been pretty generally abandoned. Certainly the record of their services is not inspiring. Air raids, whether German or Allied, whether Zeppelin or of aeroplanes, have accomplished no military service. They have been the mere pin-pricks and the harassments of the war, serving indeed in England to the undoing of their practitioners by engaging a hesitant people to the point of eager enlistments.

All the records of the war have not been made public, but apparently air craft as offensive weapons against ships or forts are of slender value. Many took part in the battle of Jutland, but the report of the damages suffered by the ships includes nothing of hurts from aerial bombs. Cuxhaven, Zeebrugge, Esen, Frieberg, Friedrichshaven, have all been objectives of aerial raids by the Allies, but the damage done has been slight. An effort to collect the cases of submarines of all belligerents sunk by aerial bombs resulted in a list of only twenty, and of these several were of doubtful authenticity. One ship of war only has been sunk by a torpedo from an aeroplane, of the type that Admiral Fleike is vainly urging upon the United States navy.

As the eyes of an army, aeroplanes have proved themselves invaluable. As its fists, they have yet to prove the value of their punches.—New York Sun.

BUSY TIMES ON THE GREAT LAKES
Navigation on the Great Lakes is now open, and the familiar sound of steamboat whistles is indeed a welcome one to many, for not only do the steamers afford relief from the freight congestion but also furnish a most comfortable mode of travel for passengers.

Officials of the C. & B. Lines which operate the Great Ship "SEANDREE" and Steamers "CITY OF BUFFALO" and "CITY OF BRITAIN" predict that this season will surpass all others in volume of passenger and freight traffic. Never has business started with such a rush which surely reflects the general prosperous condition of the country. Vacation trips which afford change from the very day scenes are regarded as essential by the American people, and thousands are now turning to the Great Lakes for the alluring trips by water.

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