

CANADIAN NEWS ITEMS

A battalion of Japanese residents to British Columbia is now being enlisted to serve with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. Already over 500 applications have been received for this regiment from Canadian Japanese, most of whom are men who have seen service with the Japanese Army, including the Chinese and Russian wars.

The last available census, that of 1911, shows that in Canada there were 1,326,000 men between twenty and thirty nine, of whom 793,000 were unmarried. Even allowing for the increase in population since then, this means that by the time the half-million men the Government have taken power to enlist have been secured, almost every available fit man in Canada will be enlisted for war service. While there is no talk of any form of conscription for the Dominion it is doubtful if it could produce much greater results than those planned by the Government.

The following is from the Edmonton Bulletin: "The motto of the American legion for service with the Canadians in Europe, now securing recruits rapidly in Edmonton, runs: 'A country worth living in is a country worth fighting for.' It is bound to make a strong appeal to those of American birth and citizenship and we look for the regiment to attract not a little attention by its work in the field. It will have it in its power, in a peculiar degree, to stimulate the interest of our friends to the south of the line in the cause of the Allies."

Owing to the enormous increase in the number of Canadian soldiers at the front or in training for service, together with the announced intention of increasing the number of men under arms to 500,000, the needs of the Canadian Patriotic Fund during the coming year will be very great. It is not impossible that it may be found necessary to reduce the present generous allowances to the wives and children of the men at the front, which, in addition to the

separation allowance from the Government of four pounds a month, frequently means that the women are getting more money than when their husbands were at home. Such generosity will hardly be possible very long unless there is a great response to the appeal for the Patriotic Fund this time, when at least eight million dollars is asked for, or over one dollar per head of the total population of the country. The same plan will be followed this year as last, with a week's campaign in every town and city throughout the Dominion, with canvassing and collecting committees in competition. During November nearly 24,000 families were receiving aid from the Patriotic Fund.

Lest We Forget.

"The sword which we reluctantly drew will not be sheathed until the triumph of our cause has been full and unmistakable."—SIR ROBERT BORDEN, Premier of Canada.

"Canada demands that the war shall be continued not to a draw, but until the Hohenzollerns have been humiliated and the world has been freed from the menace of Prussian militarism."—SIR SAM HUGHES, Minister of Militia and Defence.

O CANADA

O Canada, my country and my love,
O Canada, with cloudless skies above,
Where'er I roam, Where'er my home,
My heart goes back to thee,
Thy lakes and streams, Thy boundless
dreams,

Thy rivers running free,
O Canada, O Canada.
God pour his blessings on thee from
above.

O Canada, my country and my love.

—F. G. S.

1st Canadians, France.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES

THE FUN MAKERS

The Minstrel Troupe, Third Field Ambulance, is doing great work amongst the troops of the Division, and it must be a source of the keenest pleasure to its members to bring a smile to the faces of those of our comrades who are finding their daily routine in the present period of quiescence, somewhat monotonous. It is gratifying to find these men giving up their spare time for the unselfish object they have in view, and we know their efforts are appreciated by officers and men of the various units visited. The minstrels look forward to further opportunities of driving away dull care.—Now and Then."

I hear that courtesy is a negligible quality among the N.C. Q's in the Canadian Pay and Record Office in London, England. Scores of oral "kicks" have been made on this subject during the past two or three months. Aren't the N.C. Q's in question content with their "bomb-proof" job? If not, let them make way for men who will at least be civil to Canadian soldiers on leave.—The Sniper in "The Dead Horse Corner Gazette."

WANTED.—Work wanted for several hundred able-bodied men. At present employed only twenty hours each day. Would like profitable employment for remaining four hours. Digging or carrying preferred. Apply 7th Batt.
—"The Listening Post."

A 5TH BATT. STORYETTE

General Alderson has the happy faculty of getting around everywhere and seeing things for himself. On one occasion he was looking over some transport and observing a very well-groomed and well-kept team he, in his usual pleasant style, complimented the teamster on his fine turn-out. To his great surprise and secret amusement, the driver replied: "Thanks, Cap; a little encouragement once in a while don't do a fellow any harm."—"A Christmas Garland From the Front."