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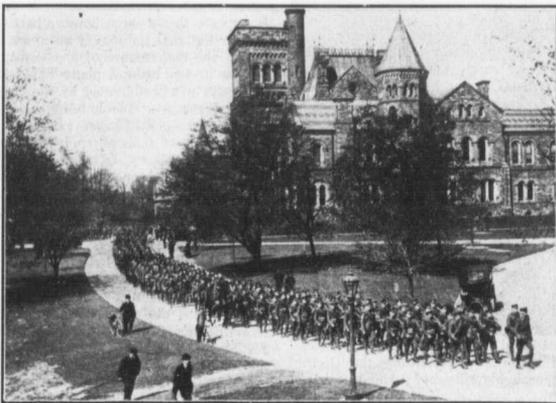
OUR STUDENT SOLDIERS

WE present herewith a picture of a march the like of which has seldom been seen anywhere, and perhaps never before in the history of Canada. On the morning of May 3rd, we stood on University Avenue, Toronto, and watched seven hundred of the finest young men in the student body of Canada on their way to embark for the Officers' Training Camp at Niagara. Here they were to be united to an almost equal number of similar men from McGill University, Montreal. Naturally, the question arose as to the why and wherefore of such a martial assembly. These young men, when coming to College at the beginning of the fall term, had no thoughts of becoming soldiers. Perhaps such a contingency as their ever enlisting in the ranks had never entered the minds of the great majority. Reared in homes where thoughts of war had never seriously disturbed the peaceful atmosphere of the family circle, their ideals were the reverse of military, and their plans certainly did not tend towards the strife and struggle of the battlefield. But strange events have happened during the past few months, and these young

fellows, so peacefully inclined, have felt the influences thereof and have responded thereto. The principles in which they have been schooled from earliest youth have been assailed, and in defence of these they readily offered themselves for the best service of which they were capable in the interests of home and native land, of empire and flag, of human liberty and freedom, of righteousness and justice the wide world over. Whatever may be said of the dreadful effects of war, and too much of this nature can hardly be spoken, there is this also to be said about such conditions as prevail among us as Britons at this present time,—they call out the very finest qualities

of virile manhood that have been lying latent in the natures of our youth. No one could look on the student body illustrated in our picture, with unmoved soul. One's heart beat the quicker as he saw them march forward with clear eye, steady tread, and swinging gait. Of such young men Canada may well be proud; for them we may gratefully give thanks. Not all of them will see the far-flung battle line of Flanders, but all of them are ready to give the best that is in them for the Cause represented on those distant, blood-stained battle-fields. Not moved by impulse, but by a clear, well-defined and established purpose, these young fellows said one and all, "Here am I, send me."

Those who are selected to go consider themselves fortunate; those who must remain behind and wait another day, covet earnestly the opportunity their more fortunate comrades enjoy of serving the Empire they all love so ardently. While such brain and brawn exist in our youth, we may not fear for our country; while such devotion to high ideals is inculcated in them as a part of their education, we need never doubt their manhood. Canada's



TORONTO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' CORPS LEAVING FOR OFFICERS' TRAINING CAMP, NIAGARA

sons need no coercion, but when occasion arises they gladly hasten to serve the interests imperilled and defend the cause with which the highest good of their fellows is so closely identified. All honor to the brave citizen soldiers of Canada. They have maintained intact the noblest records of the Empire's forces. All honor to the heroic young students who stand at "Attention," ready to go anywhere in defence of the right as they have learned it from their infancy. All honor, too, to the homes from which they have come, and to the colleges in which they have been instructed and inspired for heroic sacrifice.