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ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until the purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE NEED OF ECONOMY.

"I will conserve the resources of my family and nation at every point throughout the length of this emergency."

The above words taken from a statement of principles recently published in Chicago by one who has called himself a Christian patriot deserve more than a passing mention.

More than any previous war the present struggle is a war of resources and victory will certainly come to those whose resources prove superior in the stern and relentless demands of the remaining days and months—and, it may even be, years of conflict. When we were told that the Central empires had many months ago adopted regulations for the control and distribution of the national supplies of food, perhaps we were too ready to conclude that such a procedure was only what was to be expected within a country that was all but blockaded by the mighty navy of Britain, supported by the powerful fighting units of France. Then, when we heard of a certain food shortage in Britain itself, and of the increasing difficulty of getting certain kinds of supplies for the trade, we were inclined to infer that doubtless such a condition might be nothing more serious than a measure of governmental wisdom induced by the submarine blockade, which, while not at all serious, was yet sufficiently active as to prompt such a measure of discretion.

However, as the season advances we are beginning to realize more and more definitely that none of these conditions, taken alone, entirely account for the present high prices of foods or for the warnings sounded from various quarters as to the need of economy. Of recent years the whole world has changed greatly. Time was when nation was cut off from nation by natural barriers, such as the lofty and untracked mountain range or the charless ocean. Under these conditions there might be, indeed there frequently was, a famine in one land, while in another land there was a superabundance of the necessities of life. Nowadays all this has been changed. The whole world under modern transportation systems, both by land and sea, has become one great neighborhood. Now, there need not be anywhere a condition of famine so long as there is anywhere else in all the world a supply of foodstuffs. Thus, so long as there is food, not in Egypt as used to be said, but so long as there are food stores anywhere to be had in all the world there can nowhere be a condition of famine. However, if under modern conditions the danger of famine has been almost removed from the world, it is possible to conceive a world-wide condition in which the worst kind of a famine might prevail.

Taking it year in and year out it can be said that the world's food supply is just about equal to the world's need. Did the people in the world produce food supplies in excess of the requirements it can readily be seen that all over and above that quantity required would simply become a drug in the world's market and as a result go to waste. At the time when the war broke out the world's supply of food was just from year to year what the various peoples of the earth required to satisfy their wants. Nor has there been during the past years of the war any appreciable increase of the world's supply of food. More than all this it must be remembered that many millions of the men who formerly were engaged in producing the food supply of the various nations have been taken from the ranks of the producers and set at military tasks pure and simple, while they still consume quite as much of the world's food supply as before the war.

It cannot be denied that, owing to the various conditions induced by war, there has been a very great wastage of much of the best food that the world has produced. Whole cargoes have vanished from sight in the depths of the seas while other valuable supplies have been destroyed either by the methods or exigencies of the war itself. So, taking all these several factors into consideration it can readily be seen that it requires no state economist to tell us that unless we carefully husband what we have and seek to even increase by an extra effort the available supplies of food, the markets controlled ultimately by the law of supply and demand are bound to go higher and there may even come to those of us who live in such a generous country as Canada days when we may feel keenly the

pinch of hunger. Everyone who can ought to endeavor to add to the supplies of available food and everyone ought to regard waste of food as a serious crime not only against the home but also against the state.

THE SELECTIVE DRAFT SYSTEM.

The congress of the United States has before it the administration's conscription army bill, which if passed will immediately enable the administration to start training a vast military force for a stroke against Germany. While it is never safe to predict in advance of the actual vote what action a free assembly of men will take, and while it certainly would be quite gratuitous to suggest what action ought to be taken by America's representatives in congress, yet as we view the situation of the world-war and the present attitude of the United States, we cannot but be impressed by the present debate at Washington and that to which it may not unlikely lead. At the present juncture two separate plans are being considered by congress for the securing of adequate military force. These are the "volunteer plan" and the "selective draft." The latter, as is well known has the approval of the president and strange as it may perhaps appear to our readers, it is being fathered in congress by a man who himself was born in Germany, Representative Kahn of California. The volunteer plan on the other hand is being promoted by Chairman Dent of the military committee.

Newspapers throughout the United States are voicing their opinions on this subject and here, also, some surprises are being registered. While there can be but little room to doubt the fact that by a method of conscription the speediest and most severe knockout blow could be delivered against the enemy, yet here and there in places where the pro-German sympathies were supposed to be strongest, leading papers have supported this form of compulsory military service. War is a business, truly a grim business, in which the life-blood of men and women is the price paid on demand for the securing and maintenance of what is demanded by those who fight. If this contention is correct, and we believe that it is irrefutable, then this war business ought to be conducted upon business lines.

A member of the British commission now at Washington, while refusing to say what method the United States should adopt for the raising of its army has made no secret of the fact that all England now is fairly fanatical over universal military service. "War," declares General Bridges, "is no longer a war of expeditions, but a case of nation against nation." And then, he adds significantly, "the volunteer system under which the Empire entered the war has cost the lives of the most valuable citizens, crippled industrial mobilization, and immeasurably set back England's efforts in the war."

If every citizen of a free democracy enjoys equal privilege and protection during the days of peace many hold that it follows that every citizen owes an equal duty to defend the state in time of war.

MORE GERMAN KULTUR.

The London Times is authority for the horrible report that the Germans have actually instituted the practice of using the bodies of their dead soldiers for the purpose of manufacturing lubricating oils so badly needed to replenish their diminishing stores. Such a story seems all but unbelievable, but the world can no longer remain in doubt as to its accuracy, for in the same issue of the Times there appears a photographic facsimile of a news article that appeared in the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger of April 10 which referred to the "Corps Exploitation Establishment" (Kadaververwertungsanstalt). It is explained that after the fatty oils have been extracted from these bodies the bones are ground up to be mixed with pig feed or to be used as fertilizer. It appears that one of the factories used for this horrible purpose is located near Gerolstein and the ghastly details of how the bodies of human beings are used are most revolting to the mind of any, save a German. This newly devised bestiality has shocked the civilized world, and it is no wonder that the Pope has expressed his unqualified horror and condemnation of such gruesome barbarism.

It has been said by some that it is the German government and not the German people which is solely respon-

sible for the horrors of this war, but the fact that such revolting practices are described in detail in the German papers indicates that the rank and file of these German people have been so corrupted by their war-mad leaders that they are now willing to not only tolerate, but also to acquiesce, in any horror that will yield a pound of fat or a pint of oil to help on the fighting machine of the fatherland.

What kind of a world would this be were the German forces to win out? If anything further was required to show the utter irreverence and cold-blooded materialism of the people of Germany surely this latest development of the dead and callous contempt for the sacred feelings of the living more than demonstrates their attitude.

CAPTAIN KUHRING.

That was a noble address that was delivered before the Canadian Club by the Reverend Mr. Kuhring, recently returned from the front.

With fine vision did this well known clergyman describe and sum up the benefits that have already come to the Empire and to the world through the splendid practical idealism and courage of Britain and her allies. St. John and its citizens are glad to have Captain Kuhring home again where his presence will not only be to the advantage of his own immediate parish but also to the good of the city in all that makes for its fuller appreciation of the actual problems overseas and likewise in further preparation for their solution.

COMPULSORY SERVICE

NOT BEST, SAYS CANADIAN

New York, April 24.—Conscription is not needed to raise a great and efficient body of workers for military, industrial, and agricultural service, provided the volunteer system is properly regulated. That is the lesson that Canada has learned from the outbreak of the war, according to Paul U. Kellogg, who has recently made a thorough study of the situation in that country. Indiscriminate volunteering was more than indicated in the compulsory service, he says, in the opinion of Canadian authorities, but both are inferior to a volunteer system where the process of selection is regulated by a modern census and efficiency methods.

Writing in the current issue of the Survey, Mr. Kellogg tells of the creation of the Canadian National Service Board in September, 1916, by order in council under the War Measures act. This board to a considerable degree controls recruiting and the distribution of volunteers. It is composed of a director-general and a director in each military district in Canada. The former is Richard B. Bennett, M. P. from Calgary. The secretary is C. W. Peterson, also of Calgary, and known for his statistical work in agriculture in the Northwest territory.

"To their mind," Mr. Kellogg writes "the war-time employment of Canadian man-power sinners down to the efficient utilization of each man's powers; and for this the male population resolves itself into three major types—the fighting man, the working man, and the paying man."

Man-Power Survey Made
"The first responsibility, as the National Service Board saw it, was to discover deficiency or surplus in the human resources of Canada for each of these three purposes. This, they felt, could be shown by a man-power inventory addressed to all citizens and an occupation survey which would draw on employers and organizations."

Mr. Kellogg adds:
"The response," to quote Mr. Bennett, "was beyond expectations. Franking privileges were accorded the national service so that the returns involved no extra outlay. The ordinary Canadian census costs from \$75,000 to \$100,000. This cost less than \$50,000, and we promptly secured within 10 per cent. of what the census gets in the same age and sex classifications. The census developed rapidly three classes of military prospects: (1) Men from eighteen to thirty without dependents, (2) men from thirty to forty-five without dependents, (3) men from sixteen to forty-five without more than three dependents. By March the Board had turned into the military department 20,000 cards of military prospects of the first class."

"The Board has power to prevent men from enlisting who are needed in occupations where they have skill—for example, send them back to the farm. England had to return four divisions of shipbuilders and coal-miners who enlisted in the first wasteful period of recruiting. A nation should not let the wild cry for soldiers from a thousand sources stampede irreplaceable men needed at home to make those soldiers effective. It takes six



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Little Benny's Note Book

Sleepy Miller.
Mr. Smit has a meet store
And a pushcart to deliver the meet.
And a boy to push the pushcart
Which he does looking down at his feet.

He never looks the way he's pushing,
If you do it yell, Hay! and jump
When you hear him rite behind you,
You and the pushcart both bump.

His name is Sleepy Miller,
On account of the way he acts,
Us fellows having gave him the Sleepy,
And the Miller being the facks.

He knocks on peoples fences
And if there's a dog he never waits,
Just taking the meet out of the pushcart
And throwing it over their gates.

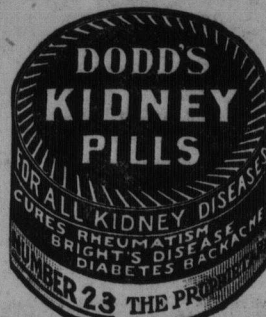
When anything happens he wants to see,
He sets on the pushcart to look,
Because wat does he care how many people
Are waiting to put their meet on to cook?

When the pushcart is empty he pushes it back,
Still looking down at his feet,
And starts to push it all over again
When Mr. Smith gives him more meet.

PROMINENT SCENARIO WRITERS.

Herbert Warren, the well known leading man in legitimate and vaudeville productions and the author of many successful vaudeville sketches has been engaged as chief scenario writer for the Conique Film Corporation. Another well known actor in the scenario department is William Jefferson, son of Joseph Jefferson of Hip Van Winkle fame and beloved memory.

They are measuring Sessue Hayakawa for a complete suit of fins. The Lasky-Paramount star having engaged in a sub-aquatic struggle with Guy Oliver in "The Bottle Imp," is now scheduled for a second piscatorial feat in another Lasky picture. This time he is sentenced to take Carmen Phillips out over her head in a motor boat, pull the plug and artistically drown. Considering the present low temperature of the late Mr. Balboa's well known private bath tub, Mr. Hayakawa is approaching this incident with a conspicuous lack of enthusiasm.



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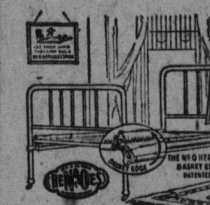
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place at 8.45 o'clock yesterday

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street, to St. Peter's church.