

Step Into Your Place

(By Staff Q.M. Sgt. E. E. Kelley, 193rd O.S. Battalion)

In a letter addressed to the First Minister of Canada, under date April 21st, 1916, an Ontario public man made this statement:

"The voluntary system will produce an after-war aristocracy of those who enlisted, and another class who will be looked down upon because they did not."

This statement is quoted here, because it is true, because it is too true.

When the campaign for men was on to fill the ranks of the Nova Scotia Highland Brigade, the statement was made that recruits would not be "dragooned into khaki." That statement was made by a writer who very thoughtlessly allowed a soft sentiment to dwarf his better sense. Had he asked himself a simple question, he never would have written what he did write. He should have reasoned this way:

"How is it possible to tell men the truth, to point them DUTY, and not apply moral conscription?"

When Colonel Borden addressed an audience on that famous recruiting tour, he told that audience the TRUTH. And the TRUTH was sufficient, because no power of eloquence, no trick of rhetoric, could strengthen the appeal of a man stripping facts naked—burning into men's souls the vitriol of the Great Lesson which only this Armageddon could produce.

One thing was left after the TRUTH failed—PITY FOR THE MAN WHO COULD NOT GRASP IT.

"Dragoon" men into khaki—certainly. And why not? Do we stand on ceremony and finesse when we drag the would-be suicide from the brink of death? Should we, then, hesitate in attempting to protect men against themselves? Don't we know that the gratitude in the years yet to be will counterpoise any harshness of the moment? Don't we know that there are men in the Nova Scotia Highland Brigade at this moment who thank God for the hour in which the TRUTH was literally forced upon them?

Live with soldiers for a little, hear what they have to say, grasp their feelings toward the man who should be in khaki—but is not. Then you will KNOW.

We talked of duty morning, noon and night. Is the term becoming threadbare? It isn't a light or idle word, but sometimes one feels that something more compelling than the repetition of the word simply is necessary. Men become callous. It seems necessary to tear the matted growths from their consciousness.

And that is why we repeat the TRUTH.

"The voluntary system will produce an after-war aristocracy of those who enlisted, and another class who will be looked down upon because they did not."

Many writers and speakers have uttered that thought, but few so simply and, withal, so forcefully. When DUTY TO THE STATE fails as an appeal, duty to the individual and to those who will come after, duty to oneself and (to be utterly selfish) to one's own blood relations, must be pointed, drastic, and bitter though it may seem now.

Young man, you can't look the man in khaki in the eye NOW. How will you fare, think you, when that "after-war aristocracy" come back to resume work alongside you in their uninterrupted peace-time pursuits?

London, Aug. 11—The Duchess of Devonshire, wife of Governor-General-elect of Canada, opened the Canadian Red Cross hospital at Buxton, in Derbyshire, today.

Premier Borden Expresses His Appreciation of the Celebrated 85th. Band.

Lt.-Col. E. C. Phinney, officer commanding the 85th Battalion informally called at the 85th Band Marquee Thursday forenoon and expressed his pleasure in the music played by the band for the occasion of Premier Borden's visit to camp and review of the troops. After presenting his own congratulations, he reported that General Benson of Headquarters, 6th Militia Division, Halifax, and Premier Borden had specially expressed the pleasure that they had received from the concerts given by the band after the review and during the evening outside Camp Headquarters Mess, Lt.-Col. Hayes, who is president of the band committee, also called and genially conveyed his congratulations. The bandmen were delighted to discover that their musicianship was well received by their officers, and had drawn encouragements from the Prime Minister and from General Benson.

Memorial to Canadian Dead To Be Erected

Movement Now Under Way in London—Plan Includes also Cemetery and Tablets

London, Aug. 12—The Canadian dead, who died for England and the Empire, are to have their names and deeds splendidly remembered in the world's metropolis, London.

At a meeting of prominent men of all callings, representing all Overseas Dominions of the Empire, held here a few days ago, there was inaugurated a movement for the erection in London of a memorial to fallen Dominion soldiers and for securing a cemetery in London for interment of the remains of overseas men who die in England, where there will also be erected a tablet to the memory of each Dominion soldier who dies abroad. Official recognition will be sought when the plan has matured.

BRITISH WANT MORE CANADIAN MEDICAL MEN

Ottawa, Aug. 12—The British War Office has asked the Militia Department here to supply the Imperial Medical Corps with 100 men from the Dominion. The need of medical men has been accentuated by the hospital requirements raised by the big offensive, and all Canada's spare men may be utilized.

The inevitable visitor came to the home of Bandsman Truman B. Davidson at Stellarton last Sunday when his little son, Robert, about 4 years of age was called away after several days illness resulting from scarlet fever having developed into acute Bright's disease. He was a bright and merry boy, and a general favorite with his playmates and older friends. The members of the 85th Band and men of the battalion tender their deepest sympathy to the bereaved parents.

CANADA'S SHARE IN MEMORIAL TO LORD KITCHENER.

Government Has Notified London That Canadian Contribution Will be \$25,000.

Ottawa, Aug. 12—The Canadian Government will contribute toward the memorial to be erected by the Empire in honor of Lord Kitchener Canada's share in the tribute toward the man whose army is now forcing the Germans back will be \$25,000. The Imperial authorities have been notified to this effect.

Prussian Guard

History of "Invincible" German Corps Which British Valor Has Smashed on Battlefield

The Prussian Guard is supposed to be in the view of every German boy and girl, prince and peasant invincible. Napoleon once called his guard a "moving citadel which protects the Emperor wherever he goes." The Kaiser, on a spectacular occasion early in his reign stole the aphorism and applied it to the Prussian Guard.

To be exact, the Prussian Guard is an army corps, which takes the field as a separate unit and is made up on a peace footing of some 50,000 troops of all arms. It embraces thirteen regiments of infantry, eight regiments of cavalry. When we speak of the "Prussian Guard," therefore, we mean foot, rifles, uhlan, dragoon, cuirassiers, hussars, and even sappers.

Goal of Prussian Greatness

The men of the corps are the supposed super-troops of the Kaiser's Army, hallowed by legend with unconquerable prowess. Their officers are exclusively noble and the rank and file must be at least 5 ft. 10 in. and 168 lbs. Unlike other Prussian regiments the Guard is not a Territorial unit, recruited from the particular local district in which it is raised or has its headquarters, but consists of men from all parts of the kingdom.

Two qualifications are essential—the physical standard mentioned and "better-class" origin. As a rule, the Guards belong to the older farming stock of the Prussian Provinces. To have performed his two or three years of military service with Guard regiments in Berlin or Potsdam, where they are exclusively quartered, is for every young Prussian a badge of distinction which serves him well in later life.

Hohenzollern Pets

The First and Second Regiments of the Infantry of the Guard are the particular pets of the Hohenzollerns. All Prussian Royal Princes serve entering their ranks on their tenth birthdays, as "the little Willie," the Crown Prince's eldest son, has done completing what someone called "three degenerations." The princelings go through the form of "earning" their promotion by successive stages, beginning as subalterns and graduating to a colonelcy.

GERMANY'S LAST COLONY SLIPPING AWAY

London, Aug. 7—Gen Louis Botha, Premier of the Union of South Africa has arrived in German East Africa to witness what is believed here to be the last phase of the operations against Germany colony.

General Botha was present at the recent fighting north of the German Central Railway, which resulted in a British advance, to the occupation of the lines at Kilimatind and other points. Meanwhile with the occupation of Ujike by the Belgians and of Sarani and other coast ports by the British, the Germans apparently are afforded only the opportunity of retreating into the Southeastern corner of the colony, where the Portuguese, in their east African possession, are awaiting them.

TO FIND PLACES FOR CANADIAN SUPERNUMERARIES

Ottawa, Aug. 12—In Canada there are now upwards of 3,000 supernumerary and unattached officers and it is understood that some alternative will be given to them, pending the finding of places for them in the new battalions, either in home or in overseas units now in England.

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