

foresee that the part women are playing in the war will create a better understanding between the sexes, an understanding which shall give fuller recognition to the human relationship rather than the mere sex relationship.

"I may say that I see the end of many ancient prejudices—some are already dead—such as the one summed up in the statement that 'Women have no part in war,' or that 'Women are incapable of concerted action.'

"At this very time, the concerted action of women is furnishing a measure of protection to the men in the trenches; the men in the field are in action to protect the homes, while the joint action of both is defending the nation. If the woman movement ever needed justification, it is now amply justified when the organized energy of women has enabled them to take to the full their share in the defence of the nations and to give the true mother's protection to the men fighting for the nations.

"I foresee that with their men facing a stern duty, women who have felt themselves unjustly used will now admit that men after all are their natural protectors—and I foresee equally that men will confess how many of their safeguards they owe to women, while both will acknowledge the failure of a one-sided protection. For we are 'our brother's keeper,' and I know that only in so far as both stand together can there be adequate protection against destructive forces, and a fuller and more abundant life for the races to come."

#### What Lady Laurier Said

Instead of addressing Lady Laurier as we had the other ladies, who live in widely scattered parts of Canada, we sent our Ottawa correspondent to interview her, and she reported the interview as follows:

The room was soft with accumulated comforts. Winter sun streamed in at the windows and music entered the door like a vapor—chamber music, made across the hallway. In the curve of the windows plants blossomed, and two birds in gilded cages—the stands exceedingly tall and slender—whispered in tunes about the other music. The interviewer was waiting, meanwhile, for Lady Laurier, the gracious, amiable helpmeet of Sir Wilfrid, of whom a gifted Canadian writer has written as 'The Lady of the Gentle Heart.'

She came—a loveable figure in gray, with soft lace at the right places and the kindest of smiles to aid her greeting. She had been ailing lately—in spite of which a gentle wit begemmed her conversation. A small dog had followed her in, had curled up beside her like a doughnut as she sat, and now unconsciously served as topic-matter.

"You are fond of animals?"

"Yes," she responded. "I love my pets—the dogs and the birds. I have the house as gay as I can make it. And the pets help—so pretty, so confiding!" As she said it the dog beside her snuggled closer.

"The world was meant to be gay," I commented. "I cannot conceive how human beings ever came to thrust this war upon it. How shall it recover its old heart-lightness when nations must forever hate each other?"

"Oh, surely," remonstrated Lady Laurier, "surely hatred will cease hereafter, and this war will be the last of all wars."

"Perhaps," I answered, "if women demand it. They know the cost of the precious lives which are being made to pass through fire to Moloch, otherwise Mars."

My gentle hostess sighed profoundly. "Ah, yes," she murmured, "the poor, poor mothers! They tell me that in France they cheer their men when the brave soldiers march away to battle, and that, afterwards, they go to the churches and pray and pray there—all but broken-hearted."

The trill of a bird filled up the pause. Sorrow could not live before its joyance.

"In Canada," I said, "there are no more France and England. St. George and St. Denis are brothers-in-arms. I find that in Montreal the women acknowledge Canada only for their nation, and are all working together for the soldiers."

"May that not be an earnest," replied my hostess, "that brotherhood shall come to all the nations?"—M.J.T.

#### Loss From War

With an artist's quick sympathy to feel with others, to appreciate the suffering war brings, Elizabeth A. McGillivray Knowles, the artist, Toronto, put her thoughts in this way:

"I have nothing to say regarding the outcome of this awful war in which the word 'hope' can be used. To think of the utter waste of life, the destruction of beauty, the failure of culture, the paralyzing 'set-back' to the whole world, is to be filled with despair.

"As for women, what can one say? Will sorrow soften, will the desire to help foster unselfishness, will the discovery of that joy which is born of loving service make the striving after extravagant social display seem futile and wearisome? One might at least hope for this result."

#### A Place for War

War has many aspects. L. M. Montgomery, writer of graceful romances, strikes a sterner note in her message to the readers of EVERYWOMAN'S WORLD:

"You ask me what I hope to see as the outcome of the war, (1) for the world at large, (2) and for women in particular. I am not of those who believe that this war will



Constance S. Hamilton  
(W.C.A.)



Katherine Hale



Emily J. Murphy



L. M. Montgomery



Janet Carnochan

put an end to war. War is horrible, but there are things that are more horrible still, just as there are fates worse than death. Moral degradation, low ideals, sordid devotion to money-getting, are worse evils than war, and history shows us that these evils invariably overtake a nation which is for a long time at peace. Nothing short of so awful a calamity as a great war can awaken to remembrance a nation that has forgotten God and sold its birthright of aspiration for a mess of pottage.

"But I do hope that, as a result of the war, humanity may re-learn its lesson so thoroughly that it will not need another such drastic schooling for many generations. I hope that the heroism and fortitude evoked may leave a rich legacy of character to races yet unborn; and I hope that a great awakening to high issues, moral, spiritual and intellectual, may follow the agony of conflict.

"In regard to women, I do not expect that the war and its outcome will affect their interests, apart from the general influence upon the race. But I do hope that it will in some measure open the eyes of humanity to the truth that the women who bear and train the nation's sons should have some voice in the political issues that may send those sons to die on battlefields.

"Where thousands die  
To lift one hero into fame."

#### An Ardent Imperialist

Janet Carnochan, Niagara, President Niagara Historical Society, well-known writer and research worker in Canadian history, thinks:

"For the world at large, I do not know that my views are in any way different from the views of a man. I hope I have studied the subject carefully and thoughtfully. The outcome of this terrible, this sad, nay, this glorious war—for is it not a glorious thing to help the weak, to give greater freedom, to keep treaties honorably, to help in the betterment of the world? Is it not a glorious thing to see the colonies rush to the help of the motherland from every far-flung part of the empire? Is it not a glorious thing, the help given to brutally treated, impoverished, desolate, brave little Belgium? What do I hope? I hope that despotic government will cease to exist, that a court of arbitration for all civilized nations will be formed to settle all disputes between the different powers, without an appeal to arms, so that the immense armaments by sea and land will exist no longer and the thousands thus set free may join the industrial ranks and become producers instead of spenders, and the millions used to maintain these forces will be used to send missionaries to Christianize the world, or to give means to put down the drink habit perhaps to buy up all the distilleries and put the sale, if any, into the hands of government. I hope, too, that no absolute monarchy shall exist, that all countries shall be governed by parliaments representing the will of the people.

"But to talk of there being no armed force at all is simply foolish. There are still savage nations to which the powers of arbitration will not appeal. There must still be a force to police the sea as well as the land. Call it police, call it a fleet, call it an army—there must be some force to which to appeal. Every town has its police to enforce order. If the police force is not strong enough, the military are called in to quell a riot. But for the immense armies and navies now existing at such an enormous cost there would be no need.

"What do I hope for women in particular? That as this

war has brought out as never before the power of women in organizing, in planning, in providing for the comforts of the soldiers, for giving help to the widows and orphans, thus the status of woman is raised, as men will feel what they owe to the women of the land. An extreme view has been expressed that wars will not cease till women have votes. But many other things will unite to produce the abolition of war, but I do think that as men feel what they owe to the help of women in this war they will be more likely to extend the franchise to women. Another effect—and this a certain and not merely a problematic effect—will be the benefit resulting from the mingling together of all classes, of all religious denominations, of the rich and poor, the learned and the unlearned, in the different societies and organizations, as Daughters of the Empire, Women's Institutes, schools, colleges, the grand army of knitters, by which has resulted a feeling of sympathy and kindness by the breaking down of class feeling, where all have worked together for the help of our soldiers. And for the world, for men and women alike, I hope!

"That the war drum throb no longer, and the battle flags be furled—

In the parliament of men, the Federation of the World."

#### A Prayer for Forgiveness

The gentle and beloved Marshall Saunders writes:

"I hope to see, as the outcome of this war, a great world stillness—an immense calm arising after the dying away of the noise of battle, and the hushing of the clangor of busy and frantic tongues, trying to fix the responsibility for this horrifying world cataclysm.

"I hope to see a world acknowledgment of guilt—not only on the part of warring nations, but also on the part of non-combatants, who, at a touch might have been precipitated into the arena of bloody strife.

"I hope to hear also a low

heart-murmuring from a sorrow-stricken world:—'Now, oh! Lord, that the fury of our fratricidal rage has abated, we acknowledge that we have all sinned and done evil in Thy sight. And not on my brother alone—not on my brother's nation—rests the responsibility for this horrible world warfare but on my head, and on the head of my nation, lies also a portion of the overwhelming accountability. Lift from us now this heavy load of punishment. We acknowledge our transgressions of years. We, the civilized nations, have been guilty of gross materialism, and of an immeasurable egotism. We have also sinned against our brothers, the uncivilized. We have permitted crimes and infamies unspeakable. Now, at last, that a sword has been among our own selves, we have heard the blood of those innocent ones crying to Thee from the ground. For them we have made a sacrificial atonement by the blood of our best-loved brothers. Forgive us, oh! Lord, in Thine infinite mercy. The sin that we sinned, we knew not. Humbly before Thee we vow that never again shall we be guilty of deadly race prejudices, and fratricidal hatreds. Our last war has been fought. Now will we beat our swords into ploughshares and our spears into pruning-hooks, and brother will say to brother, 'Let us live in peace, in the name of the Lord.'

"I hope to see as the outcome of the war, for women in particular, a great drying of the tears of the pitiful weeping Rachels, and a great comforting of their hearts for the children that are not.

"Mothers will press to their breasts the children that are left. From the new pure and passionate patriotism upspringing in their souls, women will cry: 'We have given our sons to our country! They are gone, but teach us, oh, Lord!—teach us mothers of the race, to save the coming generation—to so mould the tender hearts of our children, that it will be impossible for brother to lift his hand against brother. Inspire us to give a heart education to the tender child, to control the haughty intellect, to curb the stubborn will. Let us instil with the love of father and mother, and brother and sister, the wider love of humankind. Let the tendrils of affection of each boy and girl reach out from the family to the state, from the state to the nation, from the nation to the world. Let us have a world of brothers—a world of peace. Send not the sword among us again, or we shall die in agony!'"

#### Must Women Vote? Why?

Flora MacDonald Denison, Honorary President of the Canadian Suffrage Association, asks for a stronger democracy:

"I expect everyone hopes that a Utopian society may evolve out of chaos and destruction, but if we rather say what may reasonably be expected or what may be possible to happen as the outcome of this war I think that many opinions may be given and time only can tell which will be correct.

"I believe that the Allies will win, and the settlement will largely depend on the extent of the victory.

"If Germany remains intact with the power of continuing its militant policy, there will be nothing for it but that all other countries wishing to retain their national individuality must needs arm and defend themselves to the extent of their ability.

"If Germany is absolutely defeated, Prussia, Alsace and Lorraine, and the German colonies taken, then a policy

(Continued on page 33)