

An Appeal

To Municipal Executives by Senator Robertson, Representative of Labor in the Dominion Government and President of the Registration Board.

OFFICE OF THE CANADA REGISTRATION BOARD.

To the Municipal Councils of Canada:

Ottawa, Can., May 30th, 1918.

Gentlemen:

No undertaking that has been entered into since the beginning of the war has called for such hearty and complete co-operation of all citizens of the Dominion as will be necessary on June 22nd, Registration Day. Never has it been more necessary to lay aside the smaller issues, to ignore creeds or prejudices, to forget former sacrifices and keep the national consciousness fixed on ultimate peace through victory.

Long ago England and the United States saw the wisdom of registering their man and woman power, and the machinery has already been set in motion. The act justifies itself in the element of preparedness which it ensures. If anything has been proven of more value than anything else in this war it is preparedness. No individual, no nation is fully prepared unless possessed of a complete list of assets and liabilities. Registration of Canada's man and woman power is a list of the nation's strength and weakness.

Thousands of Canadian men and women are engaged every day in what are recognized as useful pursuits. These are Canada's assets and must not be disturbed. Again, thousands have passed the age of useful activities but are, none the less, assets. In case of distress they would be the first whose protection would have to be considered. Comparatively few are slackers—"liabilities" that must be listed. Some will gladly transfer themselves to the list of useful citizens when aided by registration.

The gigantic task of accomplishing the registration of over 5,000,000 men and women in one day can be accomplished in only one way. Everyone must help. Every province, **every city and town** is about to be put to a supreme test. No one should excel. All should give to the utmost of support and effort. Municipal buildings are necessary, or at least highly desirable for use for registration purposes on June 22nd. Economy and efficiency will both be served in this way. Canada will receive another service from a people whose patriotism seems boundless. While others are giving their services—scores of thousands—for clerical and other work on this great day, it is hoped that the Municipalities and School Authorities will put every school and every public building at the disposal of the local registrars to carry on this most important work.

For the good of our national cause, I am,

Yours faithfully,

G. D. ROBERTSON,

Chairman.

ENFORCING FOOD BOARD REGULATIONS.

Enforcement of the Canada Food Board's regulations as to food conservation has been placed in the hands of the police machinery of the municipalities and of the different provinces throughout the Dominion.

It is the duty and privilege of the provinces to enforce federal laws and the Orders of the Canada Food Board have the effect of federal law, being passed upon authority of Orders issued by the Privy Council and published in the Canada Gazette. It, therefore, becomes the duty of police officers throughout the Dominion to acquaint themselves with these regulations regarding our food supply and to see to it that they are obeyed. At this stage of the world's food situation, when 4,750,000 people in Europe have starved to death as compared to 4,250,000 soldiers who have died as the direct result of battle, it is beyond cavil or dispute that these food regulations are absolutely necessary. Indeed, many people in communication with friends in England or in France think our Canadian regulations mild in view of what people on the other side are undergoing. Patriotism as well as duty should inspire submission to these restrictions by the public and vigilant enforcement of them by the officers of the law.

In cases of convictions secured by the municipal police officers, it should be noted that where these convictions result in the imposition of fines, the money from these fines is to be paid to the municipal treasuries, and similarly in the cases where Provincial officers secure convictions. The Canada Food Board has circularized these Orders in official form throughout the police machinery of the various provinces, beginning with the Attorneys-General and

continuing through the lists of Crown Attorneys and Crown Prosecutors. In some provinces the chief constables have also received copies of the various Orders affecting the public. As a result, throughout Canada of recent weeks, there has been a crop of convictions. In all cases the magistrates have stood firmly behind the regulations and imposed the penalties as provided. These run from \$100 to \$1,000 in fines or imprisonment up to three months or both. Restaurant keepers, who have served meat on prohibited days and hours, served sugar on the tables or wasted food, have been brought to task and the widespread publicity this has entailed will do a great deal more to assure conservation of food in public eating places than anything else.

The Anti-Loafing Law, also bearing upon our war-time food production, has likewise been enforced. Magistrates have seized the opportunity of dealing with loafers, tramps and "Sports" by putting them to work on the farms. "Non-essential" industries have been interpreted by some magistrates into more or less definite groups and men who had no better excuse than employment in said questionable industries have been ordered to get into more useful occupations. In Winnipeg a great change has been observed in the streets since this law went into effect. The idlers and loafers have disappeared.—E. R.

FIFTY THOUSAND MEN WANTED.

It is estimated by a Parliamentary Committee that 50,000 men will be needed for the harvest in Canada, from August 1st to September 1st.