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WHEN CONSCRIPTION CAME

The Men Who Stayed Behind—A Clearer Picture of the Shirkers. The Young Men Who Stay Home While Others Fight For Them.—A Story Worth Reading

(By James Sherliker, in the Daily Mail, London.)

He is forty-three, and grey, and going to the front.

His wife is what is left of a woman who has brought seven children into the world and known for years the pruned knife of poverty.

"How did you manage to get in?" I asked.

"Told a lie," he answered. "I was just under forty. . . . I re-erit'n sergeant thowt as I looked fifty. . . . Then, after a bit 'e sez, 'Never mind. There's many a fairish toon bin played on an awiddle, stand oop' . . . I stood 'em a pint after."

"Going out, I suppose?"

"Aye, any day. This is mi last lea." He went on rocking and his wife went on knitting, and I went on staring at a million or so young men in multi playing cricket and tennis, and billars round about the identification disc hanging on the wall.

"E doesn't want to go reely," she said, turning to me.

"Oo doesn't? (he sat bold upright and glared); 'oo doesn't?"

"Well, yo' know wot I meean, Len," she added quickly. "I'm not sayin' as you're a coward. God forbid. But it seems a strange thing as married men should 'ave to do so mooch an' single men so little . . . Don't yo' agree, mister? 'Ello, that's a knock."

She walked to the door and opened it, and into the kitchen strode an insurance club collector—five feet ten of well-knit muscle, about to get married in the hope of escaping compulsory military service. He shook hands effusively, hoped that the war would soon be over, and expressed the opinion that "we" should make the Germ-

ans pay dearly for the terrible treatment meted out to the Belgians.

"Yo' know," he added, favoring me with his attention. "T' Germans 'as 'ad t'biggest 'sprise of their lives."

"They thowt we was a decadent nation. Oonderstand mi? They thowt we was no good. But we've shown 'em. Luk at Newwe Chapel. Luk at t' way we've swept the seas. Luk at the retreat from Mons. . . . The British boys are t'best an' bravest in t'world."

"An' don't forget," he went on, with a fist-bang on the table, "Don't forget as we doo it all on a volunt'ry system. No conscription for us. We don't need conscription in Gret Britain. We can beat t' Germans without that anu day . . . Isn't that true, Len?"

I saw two great fires blaze up in the woman's eyes. I thought I saw her wounded soul feeding them. I thought I heard the voice of a dying soldier at the front calling to her across the great waters to put the slacker in his place. The child cried in the cradle; the cry blended with the music of a recruiting band in a neighboring street. What was left of the grey-haired soldier's wife picked up the baby, gave it a fierce kiss, and turning to the insurance collector, said:

"Ooo told you as we 'adn't got conscription? I'll ask yo' another. Oo says as we've got wot yo' call a volunt'ry system? I'll ask yo' another. We're wou'd the likes of yo' be if it weren't for the likes of Len?"

The weak chin of the man who is hurrying on his marriage in the hope of hiding behind his wife's petticoats should conscription come along—it grew weaker. He essayed an explanation, but his words were inaudible to me, owing partly to the imaginary shoutings of the imaginary million young men who were playing cricket and tennis and billiards round about the identification disc hanging on the white-washed wall.

"I'll tell yo' something. If yo' weren't afraid of conscription yo' wouldn't be in such a 'urry to get married. Yo're like a lot more, yo' believe in a volunt'ry system as long as everybody volunteers except yersel'. Yo' believe in t'British Empire cause it's asy to believe. It's easy to wear a badge. It's easy to be a special constable. It's easy to lie safe in yer

bed and to know as fellers like Len 'ere is defendin' yo'!

"Conscription isn't comin'; it's come. It come to this kitchen six mon's back when Len joined oop. He was conscripted by poverty. He was forced to go an' do a job as fellers like yersel' should be doin'." Conscription is 'ere ladd—for some of us. That's w'ere it's unfair. It should be 'ere for all of us or none of us. To talk about a volunt'ry system is rot. It isn't general. A young feller like yo' as brags about a volunt'ry system and doesn't volunteer 'as no reet to accept t'benefits which a volunt'ry system has brought about."

"But I'm engaged," he explained feebly. "I'm under solemn promise to get married."

A cackling laugh that contained a sermon was the woman's quick reply. She added with a sneer:

"And my 'usband is under a solemn promise to look after his family. . . . Mind yo' I don't say as 'e 'adn't doin' it when 'e's fightin' t' Germans, but I do say as it's a disgrace that men above forty should 'ave to go while men of twenty-five should be puttin' weddin' bans oop so as to get out of joinin' . . . It's gettin' too common. If conscription was comin' tomorrow every registrar in England would be workin' o'r time today. . . . Tek yer badge out. Stop cheerin' about a flag as yo' won't 'elp to keep flyin'. Stop boasin' about vict'ries as yo' won't 'elp to win. I've a reet to say wot I'm sayin'. We've been married near on fifteen years, and 'appen in a week or two I shall 'eve a telegram sayin' as Len is done in, and then I shall 'ev to ask yo' to 'and me insurance money."

The insurance collector picked up his hat, explained that he was sorry if he had upset anybody and hoped that no ill would befall my grey-haired friend. We understood him to say that somebody had to stay at home to look after the nation's business, that if it became necessary to go, well he wouldn't grumble about it, but as far as he could see up to the present—

And the rest of his apology was drowned by the shoutings and laughings, and the cheerings of the million or so young men in multi playing cricket, and tennis, and billiards round about the identification disc hanging on the kitchen wall.

Len had gone to the front with his grey hair and his woolen cap, and the group photograph of his family, which I had hoped would help him forget while in the trenches the type of man he had left behind at home. His wife had just gone to the local newspaper office where they paste the latest on the windows. She is going from there to the local panel doctor to ask him to make her up a nerve tonic, because a woman who has brought seven children into the world and known the pruned knife of poverty and heard the good-bye of a husband whose loss will complete her life's tragedy requires something to steady herself. The insurance club collector has gone to see about his furniture at a hire purchase shop, because he is marrying a year or so before he intended to marry, and things are not quite so forward as they would have been later.

But he is smiling. He is winning. At the moment that he gets a wife (so he tells himself) he will get a certificate exempting him from military service, because, if conscription comes single men must go first.

It is unnecessary to wish him joy; he has got it. I have seen the light of victory in his shifty eyes.

First Dose Ends Indigestion, Heartburn, Or Gas On Stomach

The question as to how long you are going to continue suffering from indigestion, dyspepsia or out-of-order stomach is merely a matter of how soon you begin taking Tonoline Tablets.

People with weak stomachs should take Tonoline Tablets occasionally, and there will be no more indigestion, no feeling like a lump of lead in the stomach, no heartburn, sour risings, gas on stomach, or belching of undigested food, headaches, dizziness or sick stomach, and besides, what you eat will not ferment and poison your breath with nauseous odors. All these symptoms resulting from a sour, out-of-order stomach and dyspepsia are generally relieved five minutes after taking Tonoline Tablets.

Go to your drugist and get a \$1.00 box of Tonoline Tablets and you will go to the table with a hearty appetite, what you eat will taste good, because your stomach and intestines will be clean and fresh and you will know there are not going to be any more bad nights and miserab' days for you. Tonoline tabs freshen you and make you feel like life is worth living.

Tonoline Tablets cost \$1.00 for a 50 days' treatment. At drugists or mailed by American Proprietary Co., Boston, Mass.

Workers in American mills where ammunition is being made are forbidden to present themselves for duty in anything but a strictly sober condition and of course, no intoxicants are allowed on the premises. The Carnegie Steel Co., the chief constituent of company of the United States Steel Corporation has a rule to the effect that any of its 20,000 employees who brings intoxicants into any of the places shall be summarily discharged.

Middleton

Mr. A. M. Parsons is home from Charlottetown.

Mr. M. Hibbert, B. A., is the guest of his sister, Mrs. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Burton of Halifax are guests of Dr. and Mrs. Miller.

Corp. Cecil Wharton was in Middleton for a few days last week.

Mrs. L. K. Sperry of Petite Riviere is the guest of Dr. and Mrs. F. S. Messinger.

Harold Morse is spending his vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Morse.

Mrs. H. S. Phillips is visiting at the home of D. F. Phillips, Maitland, Hants County.

Miss E. B. Hiltz and sister Nellie, started on the 24th for the West, where they intend to teach.

E. J. Hatt passed through Middleton on Saturday going to Chester Basin. He was accompanied by his aunt, Mrs. O. R. Corkum.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and children of Halifax are the guests of Mrs. Thompson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Munro of Nictaux West.

MELVERN SQUARE

August 23

Miss Verna Palmer spent last Saturday with friends in Melvern Square.

Miss Bessie Carey of Kingston spent Sabbath with friends in Melvern Square.

The Misses Hazel and Jean McNeil are visiting friends in Halifax for a few weeks.

Miss Turner of Welstord has been the guest of her friend, Miss Thelma McNeil, for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Howe were the guests of Rev. and Mrs. Wheeler at the parsonage over Sabbath.

Miss Lena Downie of Margaretville was the guest of her friend, Miss Myrtle Morse, during the past week.

Miss Lizzie Feltus of Lawrencetown was a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Duncan Smith, for a few days last week.

Mr. Kenneth McNeil has disposed of his Ford car and purchased a fine Overland which is giving good satisfaction so far.

The Misses Mary and Minnie Tilley of Boston, are spending their vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Tilley of this place.

We are sorry to report several of our citizens on the sick list; among them Mrs. Shippy Spurr, who was quite indisposed during last week.

The Rev. Alvah Howe was calling on friends in this locality quite recently. We understand Mr. Howe is in rather poor health at present.

Mrs. Timothy Baker of Chicago, has been visiting relatives in Melvern Square, and left on Wednesday last for Windsor, where she will spend a few weeks with friends in that town.

Owing to the sudden illness of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Wheeler, who has been threatened with a nervous breakdown, the service on Sabbath last was cancelled, and a prayer service held instead. We are glad to state, however, that Mr. Wheeler is improving in health.

Wishing to remain in Melvern for a time, Mr. H. L. Bustin has accepted the principalship of our Melvern school for the ensuing year, with Miss Hortense Spurr of Melvern as teacher in the primary department. Melvern is, therefore, expecting a good year as far as school work is concerned.

Four of our young men have enlisted, or volunteered, and leave on Monday namely: Eugene Baker, Arthur Prall, Russell Hunt, and Ralph Henshaw. Messrs Baker and Prall are two Melvern boys, and although we are sorry to see them go, we are proud of their willingness to serve their King and country at this critical time.

Last evening the service in the Baptist Church was opened by Rev. Mr. Wheeler, who then left it in charge of Evangelist Howe for the remainder of the evening. During the evening Mr. Howe sang several selections very sweetly, with guitar accompaniment, which, it was easy to see, was thoroughly appreciated by the unusually large congregation. Mr. Howe is well known in Melvern, and his friends were glad to learn that his gift of song had lost none of its old time melody and sweetness.

NOT ENOUGH CHILDREN

ever receive the proper balance of food to sufficiently nourish both body and brain during the growing period when nature's demands are greater than its mature life. This is shown in so many pale faces, lean bodies, frequent colds, and lack of ambition.

For all such children we say with unmistakable earnestness: They need Scott's Emulsion, and need it now. It possesses in concentrated form the very food elements to enrich their blood. It changes weakness to strength; it makes them sturdy and strong and active.

Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

ALBANY

August 23

Mr. Sawler's fine new barn is an improvement to the place.

Miss Spinney from Greenwood has her school in South Albany.

Rev. M. B. Whitman and family have returned to Caledonia, Queens County.

The Baptist Quarterly meeting will be held in Albany on September 13th and 14th.

The Sunday Schools will hold their annual picnic at Tuft's Lake on Wednesday, 25th.

Mrs. Dunlap and sons returned to their home on 17th, will stop in Truro until Friday, 20th.

Mr. Wm. McKeown who spent the last winter in Florida, is now with his sister Miss Carrie.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McKay of Middleton visited Mr. and Mrs. Harris Oakes on Sunday, 15th.

Messrs Herbert and Dudley Merry, the former of Boston and the latter of New York, have recently visited their brothers and sister Mrs. Enoch Kniffin.

Rev. A. H. Whitman will occupy the Baptist pulpit on Sunday morning, 22nd. Mr. Blakney will preach at Albany Cross in the afternoon and at the church here in the evening.

Miss Winnie Sawler was successful in obtaining her M. P. Q. Also got high marks in English. This supplementary examination gives her a Grade C certificate, having been successful in the other branches a year ago.

Mr. Blossom passed to his eternal rest on Friday, August 15th, after a long and painful illness of cancer of the throat. The deceased was a native of Bridgeport, Conn. He and Mrs. Blossom had resided with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whitman of Albany, for the past two years. He leaves a widow one daughter and one son of Bridgeport to mourn their loss. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. A. H. Whitman, assisted by Mr. Bleakney. Beautiful flowers adorned the casket and the grave was partially robbed of its gloom by a lining of green boughs.

NICTAUX FALLS

August 23

Everybody seems to be enjoying the blueberries of which there is a bountiful harvest around and about us.

Mrs. L. C. Sperry of Petite Riviere, has been visiting her many friends of this place during the past week.

Joseph Hoffman and Shirley Bartheaux, were among the Harvest excursionists on Tuesday, 17th.

Mr. Melbourne Hoffman has sold his place to Stanley Crouse. We regret to lose Mr. Hoffman from our neighborhood.

Miss Hilda Feindel who has been the guest of her brother during the past three weeks, returned to her home on Friday last.

Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Smith of Lynn, Mass., after visiting at Mrs. Smith's home for two weeks, returned to Lynn on Wednesday last.

Prof. Heath and wife after a two months stay at Mrs. Heath's home have returned to Cortland, N. Y. After a few weeks in that place they will return to their home in Pittsburg, Penn.

On Thursday of last week a very pretty event was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Annis, when their daughter Vivian Alice was united in marriage to Rev. George W. Beck, now training at Halifax for overseas service. Promptly at one o'clock the bride entered the room on the arm of her father, the wedding march being rendered by Mrs. L. C. Sperry of Petite Riviere. A beautiful floral arch had been prepared for the nuptial service which was performed by Rev. J. Norman Ritecy. The bride was becomingly gowned in blue silk crepe de chene with lace trimmings. After the ceremony a tasteful lunch was served to the relatives and friends present, after which Mr. and Mrs. Beck departed in Wheelock's car amid showers of confetti enroute to Halifax, Musquodobit, Great Village and other places.

FALKLAND RIDGE

August 21

Mrs. E. A. Gardner of East Somerville, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Robert Swallow.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. James Sproule on the birth of a daughter on August 19, 1915.

The young people of East Dalhousie and Falkland Ridge, spent the evening quite recently at a reception given to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mason. The young people received the congratulations and good wishes of all. The friends of the groom presented them with a small gift as a token of the esteem in which he is held. Among the guests were: Miss Lena Downie of Margaretville, sister of the bride; Mrs. Tretheway of Riversdale, mother of the groom; also his sister, Miss Carrie Mason of U. S. A. At the close of the evening a number of men serendoned the newly married couple.

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FIRST TERM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 6

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Business as Usual

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION HALIFAX

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M. McF. HALL

Manager and Secretary Halifax, N. S.

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All butter, wrapped in parchment, must have the words DAIRY BUTTER printed thereon.

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LIMITED Bridgetown, Nova Scotia

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Fresh Fish every Thursday Thomas Mack

Advertisement for Heintzman & Co. Art Piano, featuring three generations of Canadian pianos and a list of prices.

Advertisement for Fire insurance, mentioning the Northern Insurance Co. and Thomas Mack.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page: + M L F I L M S . A F E T Y A L K O D A K S . A F E T Y A L M