

The St. John Standard

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M. V. MACKINNON, Managing Editor. ALFRED E. MCGINLEY, Editor.
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ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that 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.

NATIONAL SERVICE.

That the people of St. John are vitally interested in the success of the Empire in the great war was strikingly evidenced by the very large audience that gathered in the Imperial Theatre last evening to hear Hon. J. D. Hazen, minister of Marine and Fisheries, and R. B. Bennett, K. C., M. P., director general of National Service, and by the enthusiastic applause which greeted the telling points made by the speakers.

But, as Mr. Bennett put it, Canadians cannot do their duty in this war by mere attendance at meetings, or by applauding speakers who come with the message of National Service. The situation is grave and serious, and desired victory can only be attained by a complete realization of the duty resting upon each of us and a willingness to cheerfully perform it to the limit of our ability.

The plan of the National Service project, literally an inventory of Canada's man power, was explained so clearly that there is no excuse for not understanding it. The cards sent out by the Board, and which Canadians are expected to fill in and return, are intended to obtain information of what each Canadian can best do, and is willing to do. In the past there have been mistakes due to the excitement incidental to the participation in war, and the indiscriminate enlistment inseparable from the voluntary system of raising armies. These mistakes have not been confined to Canada, hence it is that it had been found necessary to take four divisions of British soldiers out of the trenches in France and Flanders and return them to Britain, there to do more valuable work in the munition plants, the shipyards, the mines, or other basic industries of the country.

By National Service it is hoped to prevent a recurrence of such mistakes and to direct the energy of each willing Canadian into the channels where the best results can be secured from his labor. For instance, a scientific farmer who on a western Canadian farm can raise 8,000 bushels of wheat in the year is of much more value to the country and the Empire engaged in raising wheat to feed other fighting men than he could possibly be in the trenches. And this is but one illustrative case.

It has been found that for the successful prosecution of this war it is necessary to divide the men of Canada into at least three classes: First, the fighting men, which embraces all unmarried, physically fit Canadians between the ages of 19 and 25, it having been established that the men between those ages are best calculated to withstand the hardships of trench warfare. Such young men are not doing the best National Service unless they are in khaki, fighting for their country.

The second class embraces men engaged in the great necessary industries of the country, the agriculturists who produce from the fields the material with which the soldiers are fed; the skilled workmen of the munition plants; the cotton factories; the mines. These men will probably be found to be older than the first named class, and correctly so, for men of fighting age, unless highly specialized workmen whose services are of particular value, cannot be said to be doing their full duty while they are filling a position, even in a munition plant, which could be as well filled by an older man, one who would be of less value in the fighting lines.

The third class, and one to whose responsibilities Mr. Bennett drew particular attention, is composed of the man who cannot fight, cannot make munitions or serve in equally valuable capacity in the development of the basic industries of the country, but to whom has been given the gift of wealth, the ability to make money. Unable to perform National Service in the other lines mentioned this man should pay, and it will be the business of the country to see to it that he does not evade or escape his responsibility.

Plainly it was brought home to every man at the meeting that he is

expected to do his full part in one of the lines of National Service, to do the work for which he is best adapted by ability or circumstance, and to do it willingly. This is the essential point, that in the situation which today confronts Canada and the Empire there is work for all. The answers to the question on the National Service cards will enable the board to allot to each man his part, to classify him in the position where he can produce most valuable results. But in order that the plan shall be most thoroughly successful it is necessary that citizens shall make a prompt response to the request to fill in the cards. The week ending tomorrow is being observed all over Canada as National Service week. With proper co-operation on the part of the people it should be epoch-making in the value of the work done. Lacking that co-operation it will fall of its full effect. The call is made to every citizen and it should be obeyed.

DON'T HAMPER, HELP.

Those Canadians whose conception of the duty of the hour finds expression in criticism or condemnation of the Government which is trying to the limit of its ability to grapple with the problems incidental to Canada's participation in the war, are sadly out of joint with the times and with the spirit that should animate the men of this country. This should be a period of mutual help and co-operation. The men who are in positions of authority, irrespective of politics, are faced by a multitude of tasks and problems under which the great majority of their critics would falter and fail. The wonder is not that mistakes have been made in the handling of the many war problems, but that the errors have been so few and, in comparison to the work done, of such minor importance.

This is not a time for light or careless criticism, or for condemnation impelled solely by political motives. What Canada requires from every man within her boundaries is work and service, service that will make us worthy of the men who have forsaken their civil vocations and have donned the khaki to fight the battles of the Empire, or of the noble women who have striven with a zeal of worthy purpose to care for the soldier and lighten his lot.

Canada has already done much but it is necessary to do much more. The supplying of men to fill the sadly depleted ranks of the boys on the firing lines does not mark the full limit of our duty or our responsibility. The call of the hour is for service and co-operation. Nothing less will be acceptable, nothing less will discharge the responsibility of every Canadian. The motto of every man in Canada today should be "Don't hamper, help."

A BENEFICIAL ACTION.

The New Brunswick Government is to be heartily commended for its action yesterday, in appointing a non-partisan and well qualified commission to investigate the workings of the Workmen's Compensation Acts of Ontario and Nova Scotia with a view to their application to conditions in this province. Since the adoption of Workmen's Compensation Act in New Brunswick, which at the time of its framing, was one of the most advanced pieces of legislation on the statute books of any province, conditions have changed so that it is necessary that the measure should be revised and, possibly, improved. To secure information on which to base such improvement is the function of the commission named yesterday.

The gentlemen entrusted with this important duty will be expected to examine thoroughly into the matter and from their findings a more advanced, more beneficial act will be framed. It is decidedly a move in the right direction and illustrates that the men who toil in the factories and workshops of the province have sympathetic friends in power in Fredericton who are ever alert in their behalf.

DIED.

LARKIN—Suddenly, in this city, on the 4th inst., George M. Larkin in the sixtieth year of his age, leaving his wife, five sons and one daughter to mourn.
Notice of funeral later.

WAR'S INFLUENCE ON RELIGIOUS LIFE

Rev. John Henry Jowett, a preacher of international renown, is one who believes that this war is going to have a tremendous effect upon the spiritual state of the world, and particularly England. Statistics do not tell the story; statistics, indeed, might be quoted by those who believe that the war has shaken the confidence of mankind in God and a life hereafter. Many prayer meetings that were started in the early days of the war have been abandoned. Church membership has fallen off, largely because the churches are emptied of men. The services are not nearly so largely attended as they were two or three years ago, especially the evening services, which, he says, are the principal services with the great majority of British churches; but this may be partly accounted for by the darkness of the streets. Not only might the statistics be misleading in these particulars, but Dr. Jowett says that a "really vital revival in the churches, might, first of all, reveal itself in a thorough purging and in a reduction of figures all the way round."

No More "Impossible" Tasks

Many essential things are still hid. The metal is in the furnace, and no one can see the form of the mold from which it will yet flow. Answering the question, "What is religion?" Dr. Jowett said to a New York Times interviewer: "If a people is surrendering its life and treasure to the championship of a noble cause, has that nothing to do with religion? Or is the sacrifice altogether outside the sacred pale? * * * If the careless become serious, if the indolent become energetic, if the frivolous put on gravity, if the selfish become chivalrous, if the selfish become sacrificial, if men and women who are normally timid become firm and brave and resolute, has that nothing to do with religion?" Dr. Jowett has a strong ideal of what is called practical religion. Social revivals and spiritual reconstructions are anticipated such as we have scarcely dared to look for in our wildest dreams. What used to be called socialistic legislation will, he believes, hasten the coming. Measures now passed through Parliament in a day which four years ago would have been regarded as impossible, and never again in the face of any social iniquity or social oppression will the cry be raised, "It cannot be done."

Barriers Burned Down

Another great factor in the social and political and religious life of England after the war will be the influence of the women. The woman suffrage question in England is settled, he says, "it is imperatively settled by the strength and grandeur of women's services to the nation. When the matter comes to a vote an overwhelming majority will record itself in favor of putting women on the national electorate. Of great significance, too, is the breaking down of denominational lines in the British Isles." In America these lines are as green hedges, but in England they are like stone walls. Now denominations are being forced together in training camps as well as at the front. In the Y. M. C. A., in which all denominations mingle, there is a vast co-operative work which is bound to have an influence upon the future. In Scotland the Free Church and the Established Church are pooling their college resources, gathering their students under one roof, "and there is going to be a comradeship and a fellowship and a mutual understanding which must be immensely influential in furthering the cause of God."

The Spirit is Moving

Men and women by the hundreds of thousands, are turning to theology and demanding answers to their questions as never before. What of the men who fall on the battlefield? What happens to a boy who lays down his life for his country? Is the sacrifice of one's own life a sacrament? There is also a revival of interest in spiritualism. Raymond the son of Sir Oliver Lodge,

has fallen in the war and his father, who has given his name to his latest book, devotes a large portion of it to reports of messages he says he has received from Raymond. Sir A. Conan Doyle has declared his faith in communication between the living and the dead. There is also a strange new note in writers who have vast audiences of readers. The secular press has become spiritualized. Horatio Bottomley has "found his soul" in the war, and is writing articles of an extraordinary character, in which there is something of the color and glow of religion. Dr. Jowett quotes from H. G. Wells:—"Religion is the first thing and the last thing, and until a man has found God and been found by God, he begins at no beginning, he works to no end. He may have his friendships, his partial loyalties, his scraps of honor. But all these things fall into place, and life falls into place only with God. Only with God, God who fights through men against blind force and night and non-existence—who is the end, who is the meaning."

Shaw on Penitent Bench

"And who would have imagined," Dr. Jowett continues, "that the calm and radiant presence of the Lord would have been seen in the pages of Bernard Shaw? Amid all the bitter irony and satire of Shaw's thought and spirit, amid all his irreverence, the strange and pathetic figure of the Saviour has recently appeared for a moment. 'I am ready to admit,' says Mr. Shaw, 'after contemplating the world of human nature for nearly 60 years, I see no way out of the world's misery but the way which would have been found by Christ's will if He had undertaken the work of a modern, practical statesman.'"

"Because of all these things, I think I can discern movements due to the war that are favorable to the religious life of England. But that should not be all. This vast convulsion of Europe must not leave the religious life of America unchanged. How is it affecting us now? Are we becoming more intent upon moral values and less concerned about material treasures?"

"A BATTLE SCARRED HERO" AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Whoever named the musical comedy that Jack Westerman and his merry makers offered at the Opera House, yesterday, "A Battle Scarred Hero," certainly made a mistake, for "a cheerful liar" would have been a more appropriate title. No Munchausen ever could tell the awful whoopery as to his adventures and fighting prowess as "Eddie Polo," the part played by Mr. Westerman in the comedy. However, it was all in good fun and enjoyable. Some timely musical numbers were introduced during the play and a cute little dance by Misses Downey and McGregor, was a bright little gem.

The 16th chapter of Liberty, shows this week is a "dudger," and how Eddie Polo and Marie Wakamp can stand the strenuous pace they have been going lately is a mystery. They are left in a tight place at the finish and it is going to take extraordinary measures to extricate them, however, next week will probably show them still alive and going strong as usual.

PIONEER LODGE INSTALLS.

The installation of officers in the Pioneer Lodge No. 2, I. O. O. F., took place last night. The installation ceremonies were conducted by Deputy Grand Master Sanderson, assisted by J. A. Murdoch, G. Warden; W. McAvity, G. Chaplain; M. D. Morrill, G. Sec.; John Allingham, G. R. Sec.; F. H. Sinclair, G. Treas.; P. A. Parks, G.

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The Fact

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Our New Term begins Wednesday, January 3rd.
Send for Rate Card.

The Standard

S. Kerr, Principal

I. Guard, and W. Watson, G. Marshal. The officers installed were as follows:
John H. Lang, N. G.
N. G. Poole, V. G.
J. A. Murdoch, (P. G.), R. S.
J. F. Russell, F. S.
B. Robertson, (P. G.), Treas.
N. R. Lund, Warden.
J. Collins, Conductor.
A. D. Smith, (P. G. M.), R. S. N. G.
W. C. Murray, L. S. N. G.
A. E. McInley, (P. G.), R. S. V. G.
S. J. Fonten, L. S. V. G.
H. Scott, R. S. S.
Wm. Bryden, L. S. S.
D. B. Dief, (P. G.), I. G.
F. H. Sinclair, (P. G.), O. G.
C. D. Fowler, (P. G.), Chaplain.

Carleton Union Lodge A. F. and A. M.

The Carleton Union Lodge No. 8, A. F. and A. M. held a very enjoyable entertainment in their rooms in Carleton last night. After the degree work several solos and readings were rendered and met with the approval of the members. Among those taking part were Harry Lingley, the well known tenor soloist, and E. Cameron, the popular elocutionist. At the conclusion of the programme the members enjoyed a pleasant smoker. Sam. Irons was master of ceremonies.

Meet at Y. M. C. A.

An athletic meet was held between two of the Bible classes at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday, the Otters and the Rovers, which was won by the Rovers, 25 to 21. The following events were run off: Running broad jump, Otters 1st, Rovers 2nd and 3rd; potato race, three men each against time, Otters won, 1.25 2.5; pull ups, Rovers 1st and 2nd, Otters 2nd; standing broad jump, Rovers 1st and 2nd, Otters 3rd; five men relay race, two laps against time, Otters won, time 1.45 4.5.

Are You Intoxicated?

The question is not as important as it sounds. You may be a real teetotaler and yet be "intoxicated"—that is, poisoned by the gases that come from imperfect digestion. The products of food putrefaction are taken up by the blood and often poison the entire system. Cut out meats and starchy foods for a while. Eat Shredded Wheat with milk or cream for breakfast; eat it with stewed fruits and green vegetables for dinner or supper. It will cure auto-intoxication and make a new man of you. All the meat of the whole wheat in a digestible form. A perfect meal at lowest cost. Made in Canada.

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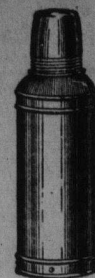
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