

THE CIVILIAN

VOL. X.

JANUARY 4, 1918.

No. 19

Men Who Die That You May Live

In all churches in times of peace, prayers arise "for those in peril on the sea." In those days of intensified perils for British sailors, more than prayers is required. The success of the far-flung British Empire is founded upon the genius of the race for maritime adventure. Through all the long history of British hardihood and endurance by sea, the Merchant Marine has been in effect the bulwarks of the British Isles,—the cradle of the British race. King Alfred with his merchant marine withstood and defeated the attack of the warlike Danes. It was the merchant marine which under Drake and a coterie of great leaders defeated the Spanish Armada. Who will dare to complain that the British merchant marine of to-day is not living up to the noblest and most heroic traditions of the past? Fighting against enemies as ruthless as the sharks which infest the Torrid seas, sailors of the merchant marine are keeping open the highways of the seas, are feeding the peoples of the British Isles and their soldiers and sailors, are feeding our own Canadian boys in England and France. Faced with such demons of Hell as are the Hun reptiles who sunk the Belgium Prince (to mention only one case of wholesale murder) the men, yes and the boys of the merchant marine who survive disasters find their way to the booking office to enquire for the next chance to ship.

The boys of the C. E. F. meet the sailors of the merchant marine on board the troopships and learn to love, admire and respect their virility and devotion to duty, from the Captain to the deck hand. On all

troopship, concerts are held and our boys learn that the battle the merchant marine fight with the Hun has made hundreds of widows and orphans. A collection is always taken at these concert on behalf of a home at Liverpool where an attempt is made to take care of the families of sailors who have lost their lives in the enemy submarine campaign of ruthless sinkings. The appeal is always warmly met by the boy of the C. E. F., and large sums thus help to meet the great amount required to support the families of the brave lads who died that we might live.

The Navy League of Canada is an institution with headquarters at Toronto, which undertakes to interest the Canadian people in the needs of the sailors. Cecil G. Williams, 34 King St. W., Toronto, is the Secretary and any so inclined may send to him five dollars for membership in the league or one dollar for associate membership. Twenty-five cents is the membership fee for children. All these fees help in the maintenance of the Home for Sailors' Widows and Orphans at Liverpool, England.

A notice sent out by the Navy League of Canada follows:—

SAILORS SEEKING AID FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

**Dependents of Torpedoed Seamen of the
Mercantile Marine and Naval Service
Receive Little Attention.**

Vital and urgent are the needs of the Navy League, which is caring for the work of looking after the needs of torpedoed seamen of the Mercantile Marine and Naval service. Canada has surprised the world in the generosity of her people for patriotic purposes, but the golden