

## PLAYING THE GAME.

By Major G. R. N. COLLINS, 4th Batta. Executive Officer, Khaki College, Seaford.

Four and a half years ago many of us reached a crisis in our lives. Some of us realized this, others did not. But now that the crisis is passed, we can look back and view the situation in a truer perspective.

And looking back through those four long years, there is one feature which demands recognition—a feature which has been more or less accepted as a matter of course but of which the full significance has, perhaps, not been fully realized.

The battalions of the first contingent which placed the hall-mark on Canada's military effort, earned their reputation by simply "playing the game." That was their motto. They lived it on the parade ground, in the barracks, among civilians, with their officers and among themselves. As a consequence their record as soldiers and as men, has never been surpassed.

"Playing the game" is the only sure way to success in any calling in life, just as it was the only way to honour and to success in the army. By "playing the game" you change tedium to pleasure, and work to play. There were many features of army life that appeared uninteresting and monotonous. You made them bright and pleasurable by "playing the game." There may also be certain aspects of civilian life which may appear uninteresting and monotonous. You will see them in a very different light if you but "play the game."

It was to Canadians who "played the game" that Sir Arthur W. Currie, commanding the Canadian Corps in France, issued his special order in March, 1918. Few messages, even in this war, have reached greater heights. In part the order read:—

"Looking back with pride on the unbroken record of your achievements, asking you to realize that to-day the fate of the British Empire hangs in the balance, I place my trust in the Canadian Corps, knowing that where Canadians are engaged there can be no giving way.

"To those who fall, I say—You will not die but step into immortality. Your mothers will not lament your fate, but will be proud to have borne such sons. Your names will be revered for ever by your grateful country, and God will take you unto Himself.

"Canadians, in this fateful hour, I command you and I trust you to fight as you have ever fought, with all your strength and all your determination, with all your tranquil valour. On many a hard fought field of battle you have overcome the enemy, and with God's help, you shall achieve victory once more."

And now we are about to enter another army. The old army sought to destroy. The new army must rebuild and create. And it is absolutely true that the degree of success which we shall achieve will very largely depend on whether we "play the game." We have played the game on the parade ground. Then why not in the factory or the mine or on the farm? We played the game in the barracks. Then why not among our friends and associates? We played the game with our officers and military leaders. Then why not with our industrial officers and leaders, who now, more than ever before, will be required to skilfully direct our industrial army?

For we may as well recognise the fact that industrial officers in times of peace are just as essential as are military officers in time of

war. In Russia the men in the military army decided that saluting was unnecessary—that the authority of officers should be abolished. And Russia is paid for that mistake by the utter demoralisation of her forces and the loss of nearly two millions of lives. The men in the industrial army decided that officers were unnecessary in the factory and in the mine. And in famine, want and misery, Russia stands to-day a ruined country.

To what was due the undying name won by the "Fighting 48th," the "Hell for Leather Fort Garry Horse," the "Princess Pats," the "Old Hundred" and many many others? Simply that they "played the game." We are now about to enlist in the industrial battalions. Then let us still "play the game" and still be proud of our new unit.

You made your army life what you would. You can make your industrial life what you will—if only you, "play the game."

### BOYS FOR CANADIAN FARMS.

Under the auspices of the Canada Food Board 25,000 Canadian boys from 15 to 19 years of age were asked to help this summer on the farms. To date 23,000 have responded from Ontario and the Western Provinces. Quebec and the Maritime Provinces hold their enrolment later.

### REDUCED PRICES FOR LIGHT.

While nearly every large organization has been compelled by war conditions to increase its prices to the public, it is interesting to note that the Hydro-Electric Commission of Ontario, which is one of the largest Government-owned public utility concerns in the world, has reduced its charges for electric light and power. The new charges announced by Sir Adam Beck in the last day or two will benefit 51 cities and towns throughout Ontario. The reductions range from 2/- to 30/- per horse power.

## UNRAVELLING THE WAR-WEB.

By the Honourable J. A. Calder.

This is the first time in the history of Canada that so large a number of citizens have, because of overwhelming need, been diverted from their ordinary tasks and mode of life. That hopeless and irremediable disruption did not follow during the course of the war is a tribute to the readiness and ability of Canadians to adjust themselves to conditions that a few short years ago would have been inconceivable. To those who went overseas, that adjustment meant a new life of danger and hardship, and the facing of death. To those who were left at home to "carry on" it meant anxiety and a measure of discomfort, and the awkwardness of accustoming ourselves to the new conditions that were forced upon us. But more quickly than we ever imagined possible, we all settled down to the business of being "at war."

The war lasted so long that this new life, these new conditions, became fantastically normal. We were caught in the great web we were weaving, and there we lodged. The tremendous machinery set in motion seemed geared to run on for all time. But the end came very suddenly, and with it the realization that the web must be unravelled, that the machinery must be reversed. This is the problem that now faces the Government and the country at large—getting back as speedily,

as intelligently and as thoroughly as possible to the conditions of peace.

A great deal might be said of the innumerable difficulties in the way of anything like complete restoration. We are learning that the making of soldiers into citizens demands if anything, more care and consideration than the contrary process in which we were for so long engaged. But this much is to be remembered, that while the business of getting recruits and making them into soldiers was more or less specialized and confined to certain fixed channels, the work of aiding soldiers back into civil life demands the most widespread interest and the heartiest and most general co-operation of which the nation is capable. Feelings of pride, of gratitude, of obligation, stirred so often during the past four years, are still alive, and responsive to the thrill of this triumphant march—if only we can visualize it. But even more necessary is it that these very proper emotions should find expression in thorough, practical measures to deal faithfully with the incoming tide of soldier-citizens and their dependents, and with the dependents of those who will not come back. It is no easy task that we have on our hands; and, however efficient the machinery and organisation may be, that task will not be

fully performed unless the people of Canada back up the plans with intelligent sympathy, unbounded patience and complete co-operation.

Assurances have come from all parts of the Dominion of the desire to assist in every possible way. These assurances are very welcome as indicating the attitude of Canadians towards this supremely important issue. There can be no question of our duty. It remains for us to fulfil it with a fitting sense of the high purpose it involves, and with the determination to honour in becoming manner the spirit of service and sacrifice that has animated Canadians everywhere during the war, and that must continue to inspire us in our efforts towards a splendid and worthy citizenship.

### MORE LABOUR LEGISLATION.

A noteworthy expansion of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Ontario has just been announced by the Government of that Province. As is the case generally in legislation of this kind throughout the world, persons engaged in clerical work have, in the past, been debarred from sharing the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The new provision, however, admits all such persons to these benefits in Ontario. It is also stipulated that in future all restrictions will be removed on the payment of medical expenses, and from now on the Ontario Government will meet the entire cost of medical attention required by people who have received injury arising from their employment.