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IT'S IMPORTANT

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BRIGADIER CAMERON and Captain Eastwell, from the Training College, Toronto, will conduct D. V. Special Revival Services in the Salvation Army Citadel, King street. Come and share the blessing.

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Hon. Arthur Meighen Calls On New Brunswick Men to Do Their Share

Solicitor General of the Dominion Makes Fervent Appeal to the Innermost Consciences of His Audience and Reminds Them That the Battles That Are Being Fought on the Plains of Europe Are Their Battles—Eloquent Tributes to Hon. Mr. Meighen by Chancellor Jones and Mr. Justice Crocket.

Fredericton has heard many patriotic addresses since the outbreak of the great world war. Some of the Dominion's most gifted orators have spoken here and their efforts have been inspiring and impressive. But never has a more complete and at the same time exhaustive exposition of the subject of Canada and the War been delivered from any public platform than the address which was given here last evening by Arthur Meighen, Solicitor General of Canada.

HON. MR. MEIGHEN.

Dominion's Solicitor General Has Been Agreeably Impressed with the Maritime Provinces.

Hon. Mr. Meighen, in opening his address, thanked Dr. Jones for the kind welcome that had been accorded him. He had failed to recognize himself in the glowing description of the chairman, and believed the audience would fail to recognize him also at the conclusion of his address.

Continuing, he said he had had the privilege of addressing several meetings throughout the Maritime Provinces, and it had been a pleasure for him to see just what these Maritime Provinces really are. It was also fitting that he should close his tour by addressing a meeting in the capital of New Brunswick and in the home town of one who had been a close friend since he had entered Parliament. It was needless for him to say that friend was Judge Crocket.

"This Canada of ours is indeed a far-Bung country," said the Hon. Mr. Meighen. "One stands on the Atlantic seaboard and feels he is farther from home than from the heart of the Empire. We feel ourselves growing closer together every day, and if we are worthy to survive this struggle we are going through, we should have better our differences and gather our resources together to make this Canada the great country it should be.

"A hundred years ago our fathers, with some knowledge of what they possessed, rested successfully as invaders. In that reliance Great Britain, though sorely pressed at home, stood beside us with an expeditionary force bigger than the regular army of the invader. And Canadian nationality was born of British fealty, and has grown true to this day.

"We are the heirs of that contest and of that union in the hour of trial. We are the heirs, also, of a century of development. We have gathered into a nation great British resources that the British of that day. And we are called upon now to stand again beside the sons of those islands and to bear our part in the mightiest struggle that ever shook the foundations of the world.

"This time the battle ground is in Europe. But the world has grown smaller in these years—and we see, or ought to see, as clearly as if the enemy were at our gates, as clearly as if his fleet were ranged within the harbor of St. John, that our country, our Canadian heritage and our liberties are under the challenge of war.

"There you have my subject, but is there anything I can say upon it that will be of any help or serve any useful purpose? There is not a man or woman in front of me who has not thought it all over and argued it out a thousand times. For almost a year the war has absorbed every mind. It holds a universe of attention. All these months we have been watching millions of men, thousands of miles away, following anxiously every move. We listen for the thunder of battle in all the seas of the globe. The sentries of civilization are stationed everywhere—above the clouds and under the waters, guarding all that civilization holds dear, guarding even its innocent wards, its women and its children, against every hellish device of piracy and murder. We can think of nothing else. We have no right to think of anything else. For the world is in two camps, and each has yoked behind it through the achievements of science the almost infinite forces of nature. The human family is riding through an awful climax. And our fate and our country's fate, and very much more, hangs even now night and day, in the balance.

Defence of Canada in Europe. "Don't take solace in the thought that the battle ground at present is in Flanders and that many leagues of the Atlantic separate us from harm. The fighting just now is in Europe, but the biggest prize that can be taken from Germany's most hated enemy is here. And if the Austro-German-Turkish combination can triumph over the league of powers that face it now, what do you think would be the lot of Canada? Where would we then look for succor? Talk about defending the shores of Canada. The defence of Canada is being fought out now on the battle fields of Europe. It is not all that is at stake, but it is dear above words to us. The man that talks now of defending Canada when our own shores are invaded would be the first to take to the cellar should that occur.

"I don't speak to strike terror. We have found that British blood is not terrified by words. Britons are slow to awaken to the facts and put on the full armor of war. I do not say we have reason to fear. "If when the Briton met the Teuton, bayonet to bayonet, he had quaked, then might we harbor some fear. But that was not the case. It has been found that in these instances, when the Briton met the German, it was the German who fell back. Brussels and Antwerp may have fallen; Paris may have almost fallen and Warsaw may fall yet, but not because the men fighting on the side of the Allies are not as brave as the German foe. The British soldier's or the British sailor's heart never quailed and the failure to supply munitions has been our great drawback. If those at home are as

good as the men at the front this will decide the issue of the war.

Devotion of Canadian People. "You know as much about the progress of the conflict as I do. There is nothing in the way of news I can give you. Nor have I anything for you in the nature of predictions. One man's prediction is about as valuable as another's. I wish I could say something, though, to add to the resolution that inspires our people and that fortifies our Government. It is the business of every man to do all that in him lies to keep the spirit of his nation strong—to do so by the spoken word that must never countenance fear—to do so by the power of example that in days like these moves men more than eloquence.

"There never was a time when Canada needed the devotion of her people as she does today. There never was a time when every living citizen could mean so much and do so much in the cause of King and country. A failure now to rise equal to the call can never be atoned this side the grave.

"The day of trial is the day of opportunity. Weak and doubting men are crowded to the wall in times like these, and fall from high places. They have dropped in every country in Europe. They have gone down in neutral lands. Others are growing and advancing, starting at the back and performing real service in the white light of the war. Men by the hundreds, and women, too, have passed from obscurity to fame. If the war should stop today, the world will be thrilled for the rest of our lives with the tales of great deeds. The names of plain, simple, clear-headed men, sound-hearted men and women who started out grimly resolved to do their part, will be added in hundreds to the roll of the immortals.

"The history of this war will overshadow the annals of the past. It will stand for all time as a great conflagration in the light of which posterity, looking back, will read and judge the conduct of the children of our day. If there is anything that gets right through to the very soul, that makes a man it is the thought of his own flesh and blood turning around a few years hence and taking clearly the measure of his manhood from the hillsides of the past.

"To many it is a most harassing problem how best he can do his duty. Most people are sincerely anxious to do their full share—which means to exert to the best of all one's strength. What I want to impress just now is this, that each and everybody, not just the majority, must see this situation and get into his system what it all means, and be up and doing."

Our Duty to the Empire. "Many of our people, thousands, tens of thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands of them, are doing their part well and nobly. There are others, though, and their numbers yet are large, men and the mothers of men, who, when the supreme trial of their lives has come, have not stood the test so well.

"It has been said that one half of the world leans on the other half. Sometimes the rich are the leasers, and the poor are the strong and self-reliant. In times of peace, when plenty abounds, this division can be tolerated, for nature, in fair weather, enjoys the sunshine of conscience and gather in life's blessing with every group. But the others live also, and they feel the joy of real living, they jostle along until the crisis comes. "But we are not living in times like that. We are living now at the most crucial moment of the world's history. On this generation depends the fate of posterity, and if that is not near enough home, on this generation depends our own fate. There can be no leasers now. We have been told



HON. ARTHUR MEIGHEN.

this is a struggle between two ideals of life. So it is, but the collision has come, and it is the collision, the battle that is raging now, and not a discussion of ideals. Don't think the struggle is up in the air, it is right down here.

The Challenge to Canada. "Fifteen million armed men have challenged our right to live, and if they can help it, we shall not live except as the bondslaves of Germany. If from love of comfort, or from selfish ease, or from whatever excuse any fall to do their part, they are bondslaves by nature, and deserve their fate. Such are cumberers of the ground. They are worse, they are a menace to its security. They are leasers and not sturdy men.

"Every man in a British country is his own judge of what he shall do. He is in supreme command of his own personal service. There is nothing so easy for a shirker as to find an excuse, and there is no excuse easier than the dereliction of somebody else. But the man worth while, the man that is a man fit to survive in a struggle such as this, is he who measures his duty by his strength.

"We came up to this war lamentably unprepared. In equipment, supplies, guns, munitions, transports, organization—in all these things we in Canada and our brothers in Britain were sadly unprepared. Much indeed was ready, but compared with our foes, we had little at hand, and mountains of work to do. As a consequence the response of the Canadian people has for many months kept pace with the power of the government to take care of that response, and to turn all services offered to the best account. All honor to the courage and the pluck of the young men of Canada.

"But the machinery of the militia service is moving fast. A call has gone out for another thirty-five thousand men. We'll get them, but the sooner the better. The sooner the better—the better in its effect on Germany the world over, the better in the state of public opinion would permit them to do. Let those who made themselves so active in influencing public opinion and bending it to a fatuous pacifism—a condition grotesquely impossible and visionary in the presence of the policies that have dominated Central Europe—let those bear their full share of the onus now.

"We have heard for years about England's splendid isolation, adrift in (Continued on page four.)

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they would oppose and defeat the administration if additional expenditures were made on defence. "The British government, or any government under democratic rule, must engage its conduct by the average of public sentiment. I believe the Asquith ministry converted into arms for defence as large a share of the resources of the nation as the state of public opinion would permit them to do. Let those who made themselves so active in influencing public opinion and bending it to a fatuous pacifism—a condition grotesquely impossible and visionary in the presence of the policies that have dominated Central Europe—let those bear their full share of the onus now.

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