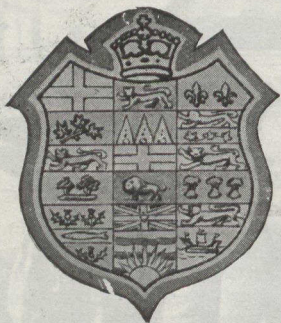


THE CANADIAN COURIER



PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

BY

COURIER PRESS, LIMITED

181 SIMCOE ST.

EDITED BY JOHN A. COOPER

TORONTO, AUGUST 7, 1915

The War Spirit

PUNCH'S picture of Grandpa submitting his head, his hands and his feet to the enthusiastic women of the household who are all studying first aid and home nursing is typical of Canada as well as England. The artist, devising a new steel shield for rifle men, makes it palette shaped. The professor invents a new field gun which looks like his beloved microscope. Every man, every woman and every child exhibits the war spirit in some form or other.

In Canada it has characteristics of its own. For example, the average farmer knows nothing about the war and cares less. He may look at pictures of the devastated fields of France and Poland with a certain amount of curiosity, but it never occurs to him that there is the remotest possibility of his fields being devastated. And if he were asked why his fields were secure, he would probably be dazed. Of course, there are farmers who discuss the war intelligently and have sent their sons to serve the flag, but the average farmer as reflected in the average farm-paper is not as much interested in the war as in the price of next year's Ford.

The working-man, on the other hand, is the patriot. On him falls the hard work and the suffering. He leaves wife and child and sweetheart and goes away with a smile on his face and a sob in his heart. When he feels worst and is most doubtful about the fate of those he is leaving behind, he cracks the blithest jokes and sends forth the heartiest laugh. He is giving his all—and a little more.

As for the professional classes, they are suffering keenly. Their salaries are cut in two—and some of them in two again. Yet they are most active in giving the sons to be officers and their daughters to be nurses, and their wives to be patriotic workers. They themselves dip into their savings account and contribute to the purchase of field kitchens, machine guns and hospital equipment. The professional and labouring classes are the saving grace, the crowning glory of the nation.

As for the manufacturer and the financier, there is not much to be said. Some of them are giving freely and some of them are gaining freely. The manufacturer who makes a hundred per cent. profit, or even two hundred per cent. on saddlery, boots, clothing or ammunition, considers himself still a patriot. The men who work through incorporated companies lose their sense of public responsibility, unless they are most careful. The corporation has no soul. To induce a manufacturer or financier to be patriotic, you must make him an honorary colonel, and then you cannot be too sure of him.

But after all, take us as a nation, with all our faults, we have made good in this emergency. Our Government has blundered and hesitated even as the Governments of Britain and France and Russia have done, but on the whole the rulers of the country have made a good record as records go. The people, considered as a whole, have risen from their hundred years of peace to their sudden military responsibilities with alacrity and enthusiasm. Where their duty has been made clear to them, it has been done cheerfully.

Railway Earnings

MORE people have discussed railway earnings this year than ever before. The decline in the net returns of the transportation companies seems to have affected the public mind to an unusual extent. The pessimists have predicted a receivership for the Canadian Northern and a tight squeeze for the Canadian Pacific. Some have suggested that the Dominion Government would be forced to take over all three of our great national systems in order to protect the bondholders and the provinces that have guaranteed bond interest.

This pessimism is not justified. True, Canadian Pacific's net profits, the barometer of Canadian business, have declined from \$42,000,000 to \$33,500,000. Yet this is not so startling. Are there many businesses in Canada which have not shown a twenty per cent. decline in profits? The truth is that C. P. R. has done just as well as the average Canadian business, large or small—no better and no worse.

A prominent wheat exporter stated last week that if Canada realizes the harvest which is now anticipated, the railways will have the biggest twelve months in their history. It will take nearly a year to move the 250,000,000 bushels of grain which Canada is within a few weeks of realizing.

Let those who have been down-hearted take fresh courage. The railways of Canada have bright prospects at the moment and optimism will soon take the place of pessimism. Canada may not "boom" again for five years, but there are distinct signs of a business revival based on agricultural prosperity.

Experienced Generals

REPEATEDLY, the Courier urged that a Canadian soldier of high rank should be sent in command of the Second Contingent. That suggestion was based on a belief that if the First Contingent had gone over in charge of a competent commandant, most of its troubles would not have occurred. The Militia Department adopted the suggestion and sent Major-General Steele in charge. The results have been most satisfactory.

Now General Steele has been given command of a district in England which includes the Canadian

CONFIDENCE

A REVIEW of the events of the year, as made in this issue, should give every Canadian renewed confidence. We have come successfully through a dramatic period.

Prospects are brighter than at any time in the past twelve months. The war is going well, if not brilliantly. The Allies are surely getting themselves in condition for an offensive climax in the struggle for personal and national liberty. Canada is producing more and exporting more than at any period in her history. The balance of trade is in our favour for the first time in our history. Retrenchment has brought economic stability. Unemployment has been eliminated.

We enter upon the second year of the war with renewed hope and confidence. This is not the time to mope or croak. Our clear duty is to work and cheer.

camp at Shornecliffe, and another Canadian, Major-General Turner, will take the Second Division into the firing line. This is a splendid arrangement. Another Canadian may succeed General Aldersen in command of the First Division.

The significance of these appointments is that Canada will have, after the war, a corps of experienced generals who will be a valuable national asset.

THE MAN WHO LANDED THE TROOPS AT THE DARDANELLES



Gen Sir Ian Hamilton has already made a brilliant reputation as the author of the greatest feat on record of landing troops against fearful obstacles. It was his careful study of the Gallipoli Peninsula that made it possible to land the forces that would make the forcing of the Dardanelles a possibility of war. He is here seen (in centre) as commander of the land forces, with Gen. Braithwaite, being rowed ashore from a British warship.

Their knowledge will mean a tremendous improvement in our military spirit and probably a considerable increase in the results obtained from each dollar spent for defence purposes. It is quite evident now that our Militia Department was thoroughly incompetent when war broke out. Some of the deadwood has been eliminated, but there is a need for further re-organization which must wait until the war is over. That these faults have not been fatal, is largely due to the energy and ability of the present Minister of Militia.

Listing the Humans

GREAT BRITAIN, in perfecting her organization for war, has decided to list her human resources. The National Register Bill, which has just passed through Parliament, provides for a new kind of census. It aims to find out the number of men available for work, and the number of men for each kind of work. There is to be a national stock-taking of the human element which can be employed for war purposes or adapted to them.

Britain has been an unorganized nation—a "laissez faire" nation. Each individual was left to choose his own occupation and to work when he liked, and on terms of his own choosing. It was individual effort which made Britain great as against community effort as in the case of Germany. The people have now decided that while individualistic effort may be best in peace, it is not the best in war.

Great Britain does not want to adopt conscription. The people are opposed to forcing men to do this or that by military law. Nevertheless, they find that volunteering needs regulation. When the war started, good mechanics needed in the munitions factories and good miners needed to get out coal, and so on through the list of industries subsidiary to war, enlisted and left these industries short-handed. The men who volunteered first for Kitchener's Army were too often men who should have been enlisted to stay at home, while the men who stayed behind were those who should have enlisted.

To put the British nation in an efficient state, it is necessary to rectify these mistakes. Something has been accomplished along this line by the Minister of Munitions. To carry the reform further, it is necessary to make a list of all the citizens and then draft the various classes available to the tasks which they can do best. This is not conscription, but organization.

Russian Fortitude

DESPITE the shortness of ammunition, despite the lack of adequate railways in the fighting zone, despite the four million fighting men thrown against her, despite a certain superiority of big guns, Russia fights bravely and magnificently. The Russian line has fallen back, but it is still unbroken. Like Bunyan's Mr. Valiant, it never falters nor fails despite the odds against it.

The cleverness of the Russian commanders, the heroism of the Russian soldiers and the patient courage of the Russian people are worthy of the highest praise. Their sacrifice in this great struggle against a ruthless, world-destroying military machine has been great, and should be long remembered.