

# The Chronicle

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## CANADA'S WAR EXPENDITURES.

It seems a great pity that those in authority at Ottawa have not seen fit to give from time to time simple but definite accounts of the financial burdens which are being assumed by the Dominion as a result of the war. Such accounts, in showing the extent of our financial contribution to the common cause, would impress upon the mass of Canadians the reality of the burden that is being assumed by the Dominion Government and would give concrete emphasis to the otherwise somewhat futile abstract arguments that are put forward in favor of strict economy in matters of expenditure, whether public or private, and the necessity for the accumulation of capital of our own, so that we may be in a position to provide for our own war expenditures, instead of borrowing from the mother country. In proportion as the extent of the task was understood, would there be a keener and more determined effort to achieve it. As it is, the only figures available are those now appearing in the official Canada Gazette, a publication that nine out of ten Canadians never see.

### EXPENDITURE RISING RAPIDLY

From the figures published in the last issue of the Canada Gazette, it appears that our war expenditure is not only achieving substantial proportions but is rising very rapidly. The amount of this expenditure during the month of September was \$14,541,003 and for the six months of the current fiscal year, that is from April 1 to September 30, \$44,427,893. So that while for the fiscal half-year, the Dominion's war expenditure averaged under \$7,400,000 a month, during the last month of the half-year the expenditure was almost twice the average. The rate of increase of expenditure recently has thus been exceedingly rapid, and it may be assumed also that during the remaining half of the fiscal year, it will continue on the upward grade. It was stated this week that by next spring, it is hoped to have a Canadian army, at the front and in training at home, of about a quarter of a million men, that is, about 25 or 30 per cent. more than have been enlisted up to the present. Obviously,

## A Message from the King.

TO MY PEOPLE—At this grave moment in the struggle between my people and a highly organized enemy who has transgressed the laws of nations and changed the ordinance that binds civilized Europe together, I appeal to you.

I rejoice in my Empire's effort and I feel pride in the voluntary response from my subjects all over the world who have sacrificed home and fortune and life itself in order that another may not inherit the free Empire which their ancestors and mine have built.

I ask you to make good these sacrifices. The end is not in sight. More men and yet more are wanted to keep my armies in the field and through them to secure victory and enduring peace. In ancient days the darkest moment has ever produced in men of our race the sternest resolve. I ask you men of all classes to come forward voluntarily and take your share in the fight. In freely responding to my appeal you will be giving your support to our brothers who for long months have nobly upheld Britain's past traditions and the glory of her arms.

GEORGE, R.I.

this increase in the number of enlisted men means a large addition to the monthly total of war expenditure. Each enlistment means a minimum of \$1.10 a day in pay alone, or \$33 a month, apart from the cost of equipment and of munitions, and the average individual monthly pay of the Canadian soldiers of all ranks is considerably higher than this minimum. Our army pay alone at the present time cannot be much less than seven million dollars a month, and by the spring possibly it will have risen to fully nine million dollars a month. To this has to be added the cost of allowances to dependents, equipment, munitions, pensions, transportation, establishment and other charges.

### TEMPORARY LOANS.

So far this expenditure has been met through temporary loans, aided by the increases in taxation imposed by the last Budget which have resulted in an expansion in the Dominion's revenue, this expansion being accompanied by a welcome decrease in ordinary expenditure. Between September 30, 1914, and September 30, 1915, the Dominion's temporary loans increased some 142 millions, this total, however, including \$45,000,000 borrowed in New York for other than war purposes and \$5,000,000 borrowed from the Bank of Montreal, which may or may not have been for war purposes. So it would seem that war expenditure to the end of September has increased the Dominion's debt by from ninety to one hundred millions—borrowed abroad. The expansion in revenue is now helping minimise our borrowings. For the six months to