

The Western Home Monthly

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A Chat with Our Readers

NEVER in the history of Canada has there been manifest such a spirit of universal brotherhood and sisterly love as we have witnessed since the declaration of war. Station, rank, creed, nationality, birth are all merged into the one great aim of service. Women formerly prominent in social, intellectual and aristocratic circles are now tenderly protecting those women and girls who face the foe of want—and one finds it difficult to draw the line, so loving and free from patronizing disposition are those who are ministering to their needy sisters. The sisterhood of women is at last being realized. During the past week women devoted all of their physical and mental strength toward helping girls and women who are out of employment. In Winnipeg an employment bureau for the purpose of providing work and shelter for women has been opened. This movement makes it unnecessary for any girl or woman to be out of work. In order to make this possible they urge employers and home-makers throughout Western Canada who can provide girls with work to let them know.

Seldom has such a spirit of kindness been shown as when these unemployed girls and women registered last week. The more needy they appeared the more eager were these women in their desire to assist them. Girls came in deeply depressed and they went away happy, inspired by the touch of sisterly tenderness.

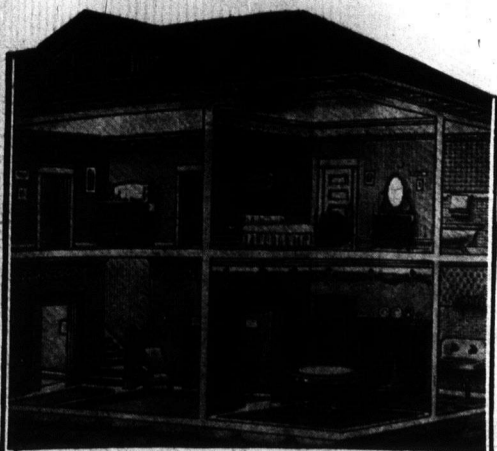
Our women of the west are responding generously to the patriotic appeal of the moment. The Daughters of the Empire in Toronto asked Manitoba women for several thousand dollars as their share in the provision of a hospital ship, and they responded with fourteen thousand dollars. Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia were equally generous. Every chapter of The Daughters of the Empire is busy providing clothing for the soldiers and bedding for the Red Cross society. At this moment one of the Winnipeg chapters are sending one hundred flannel shirts to our soldiers.

The Red Cross society has collected a large sum of money to send to the London Red Cross society. Women's clubs of all kinds are working and giving and sacrificing, society has decreed that refreshments for social affairs must be bread and butter sandwiches only, our patriotic fund is taking care of the families of our soldiers—every one who has a dollar is sharing it. Out of the great crisis is born the spirit of universal love, and the blessing of the peace of patriotism is ours.

There is another form of patriotism that we must not overlook and that is patriotic optimism, the lack of which will paralyze business. While we feel seriously sad for our soldiers and their lonely loved ones, and shudder at the mental vision of the bleeding battle grounds of Europe, it is our business to promote prosperity at home. We are away from the war zone and much is expected of us. Too many are going about blinded by a cloud of gloom. Pessimism at this hour and in Canada is a form of treason, and disloyalty. We are not patriotic when we go about crying hard times. The invisible crop of melancholy crushes hope. Business depression is caused not so much by the existing state of war as by the continual fear of "what may happen." If every one would change the cry of pessimism to the song of optimism, there would be a revival of business and consequently materially increased patriotic strength. Life is progress—perpetual adaptation to new conditions. Every pessimistic mood subtracts from the strength of our country.

Harness the hours with golden mountings of hope—thus power shall be gained and not lost. It will clear the mind—this discovered power will conquer business depression. We get what we prepare for—the nations at war prepared for war. Let us prepare for prosperity—this is what our soldiers expect of us and we fall short of our country's trust if we weaken our power by indulging in the poisonous intoxication of chronic mental fear and gloom. People at the head of affairs in Europe prophesy prosperity in Canada if Canada will keep the wheels of business moving.

The aim of The Western Home Monthly is to breathe the breath of peace and patriotism into every home of the British Empire. We hold in our power our future, and the strength of cheerful patriotism insures our country's wealth. Every honest British subject is confident that we shall conquer, then why be gloomy in the duties of the business of building prosperity? Last month's issue of our magazine was a patriotic number—we hope to fill every number with an atmosphere of patriotism so full of encouragement, good cheer, high inspiration, and patriotic loyalty that every home in the land will need The Western Home Monthly to help them in their devotion to a nation's welfare. If our readers would gladden the home of the soldier's family, send a subscription to The Western Home Monthly into every lonely home. It would be a helpful cheerful monthly visitor. Every copy is a chapter in the making of Canadian History. The illustrations alone make an art gallery of the life and geography of the world's most interesting country. These are rare pictures that should be kept for the education of generations to come. We are honest in the confidence we have of the place our magazine occupies in the heart of our people, and are sincerely grateful for the loyal appreciation of our readers. Let us be loyal to our Empire by cultivating a cheerful spirit of optimistic hope and trust in the bringing about of a revival of business prosperity that shall strike a responsive chord of peace and patriotism in every British heart.



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