

to do things, and taught us to know the meaning of *thrift*; but alas, it has not changed our *habits*—those habits of *carelessness* for which we have established an unenviable reputation.

With the triumphant ending of the world war additional responsibilities are placed on our shoulders entailing greater demands on our food supplies and other products of our country.

The conservation of our resources, from destruction by fire, is now more imperative than ever. Not only must we supply the needs of our soldiers until they return to their homes and are again employed in peaceful, productive occupations; but we must also help feed the peoples whose lands have been devastated by the fiendish Hun, who has wrought death and destruction along his path and caused turmoil and suffering throughout the world.

The ability of our country to successfully compete with other nations of the world for the business that is available during the reconstruction period depends upon its financial strength—its potential power to further develop its industries and produce more foodstuffs.

After co-ordinating our efforts “to produce” it is of paramount importance to protect those products from destruction by fire if we would maintain our supremacy in the march of progress and prosperity.

We must not relax but rather redouble our efforts to reduce the fire waste of Canada.

Canadians have proved themselves “great fighters”—they have the heroic valor and resourceful intelligence necessary to overcome their enemies.

The next war, though a peaceful one, should be none the less strenuous against the strongly entrenched demon “Fire.”

Unfettered fire is one of our worst enemies—it kills, devastates, and destroys in a ruthless manner.

If we can make as good progress in our fight against fire as we have against the Hun we will have won a great battle.

Aggressive action is needed. Everyone should co-operate in the work of Fire Prevention and help to educate and bring people—young and old—to a realization that they must be more careful about their “habits.” Statistics regarding the cause of fires show that we are the most careless people on earth. We toil unceasingly to acquire comfortable and attractive homes, and yet *two* out of every *three* fires that occur are in the homes of the people; and worse still, is the amazing fact that *eight* out of every *ten* of all the fires that occur are preventable.