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THE LONDON ADVERTISER COMPANY, LIMITED.
 London, Ont., Thursday, Sept. 6.

EXEMPTION FOR FARMERS.

THE intimation from Ottawa that all those who are making themselves useful in any way in the increase of agricultural production will be exempted from compulsory service in the army or navy, will be widely welcomed, for there has existed some disturbing doubt in the minds of young farmers on the subject.

It would be a great pity to take from the land those who are necessary for its cultivation, but exemption on the grounds of farm service will have to be given to those who are actually engaged in the work of agriculture. It is not to be taken to it if only discovered when the choice lies between this work and fighting. Tribunals will have to decide on the merits of each individual case brought before them, and it is to be hoped that they will insist on proof that anyone claiming exemption on the ground that he is working on a farm is really doing necessary work, and has not just rushed to it to avoid conscription.

SAMUEL GOMPERS, PATRIOT.

AMERICA may be proud of having Samuel Gompers as head of the American Federation of Labor and chairman of the Alliance of Labor and Democracy, and it remains for other countries to be envious. Labor has in him a champion who is also a patriot: one who represents its interests fearlessly and yet does not let him blind him to national necessities.

Samuel Gompers has been an outstanding international figure ever since the Germans began to plan outrages in the United States and interference with transatlantic commerce. To him the Teutonic agents looked to help them in fomenting strikes and crippling industries so that Britain and her allies might not derive the benefit of their naval supremacy by importing supplies from the United States. He was offered bribes which might have tempted a weaker man to use his influence against the Allies. Gompers was proof against all temptation and denounced the pro-Germans in no uncertain terms. Furthermore, he gave valuable information concerning their activities to the Government at Washington. He saw the war for what it was—democracy against autocracy, freedom against serfdom—and unhesitatingly gave his sympathy where it was due.

Now this labor leader has come out with a call to the laboring classes throughout the United States to give their moral and material support wholeheartedly to the Government, and has laid down a declaration of principles second to none of President Wilson's messages in its inspirational 'call. He has declared the war not a capitalists' struggle but a freemen's struggle, and Gompers is not predisposed to shield capitalists.

In the hands of the Laborites lies the power to do a great service to the state by interpreting the Allies' spirit and purpose in the war to those residents of the republic who were born in Teutonic lands. This power and its opportunity, Gompers has realized and he expressly points it out to the federation with an exhortation to use it. He flays the propagandists who preach peace and treachery and repudiates with scorn the claim that they are Democrats. He has given a lead to American labor worthy of its devoted adherence.

PROPRIETIES.

SOME BELATED STIR has arisen over the departure in swimming suits at Port Stanley this year. It might be objected that an ounce of prevention would have been better, but then who can forecast the turn of feminine fashions and fancies? Conceivably there is some connection between the agitation for conservatism at Port Stanley and the muttered hostilities towards the bloomers worn by patriotic fruit pickers.

A lady protests that she "loves to see a girl swim and dive and not hampered by skirts, but why these one-piece jersey suits?" This seems inconsistent or obscure, like many other oracles. How can the skirt be removed, how can one be taken from two, and yet two be left as the remainder? It must be higher mathematics of some kind.

Possibly it was felt in feminine circles that the young men being mainly at the front, some relaxation of old-time proprieties in bathing dress at Port might reasonably be allowed to the girls they left behind them. Perhaps the girls hardly expected any young men to be present this year at the beaches, when so many could were abroad for service in war or in the wheat field. As for older men, married or bachelor, it would do them no harm, and they could stay away if they liked. Proprieties in dress, what need to be

disregarded by the prudent, are after all matters of convention. Punch once printed a sketch of a ballroom with a dance going on, a vicar and a bishop conversing in the foreground. The vicar asked his lordship if he didn't think the ladies' dresses a little too décolleté. "Well," said the bishop, with fingers folded, "you must consider that I have lived many years in Africa. Morals depend, indeed, very little on dress. Some savage tribes, wearing nothing, are more austere than tribes well covered. If ladies bathing wear much the same costume as track athletes or lacrosse players, it matters nothing so long as, like the men, they do not appear to regard themselves as a sensation. Modesty is rather in the deportment than in the dress. Of course, however, beauty is bound to be noticed, and cannot help being aware of admiring regards."

CARRY YOUR PARCELS.

MEETINGS are being arranged between farmers and city folks to consider how best they can co-operate to help the country through the present food crisis. One simple plan may be followed by town dwellers with very direct benefit to the farmer and the country—they may carry home the purchases they make on the local market. This may appear to be somewhat trivial assistance, but the farmer will not consider it in that light. Every market day producers sell their goods on the market square, often having to keep their stand until noon or later before they have sold their produce. Then they must face an additional hour or two, if not more, delivering small orders. This robs them of the opportunity to spend this time in plowing or other necessary agricultural work.

It is not possible, of course, for buyers to shoulder two or three bags of potatoes, but the great part of the purchases made are small. Baskets of tomatoes, plums, grapes, single heads of cabbage and other foodstuffs may be carried away by the purchaser with little trouble, and the consequent time saved the vendor will be considerable. The crops are not yet all harvested, by any means, and even where they are a pressure of work faces the farmer and all his help. There is the fall plowing to be done, with a demand made upon all to do more than ever before, to do it thoroughly and do it quickly. Every hour wasted in delivery work means so much less plowing done and more hardship for the nation. Let Londoners who have been afraid to be seen carrying their baskets and parcels begin to take pride in this evidence of national service, and they will receive the grateful thanks of the producers.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Jutland coast is a fatal spot for any German warcraft to be caught.

Levine has been dead since 1916. As a ghost, he has created quite a stir.

Prohibition has cost the city \$10,000 in taxes, but how much has it saved to the householders?

Seeing upon whom the Iron Cross is now bestowed, one wonders whether it is meant as a distinction or an insult.

Flour drops \$1 a barrel. There falls no popular outcry if the price falls again and chips quite a big slice off itself.

Canada has at last a national news service, and this will mean that every reader of The Advertiser reaps the benefit.

Chicago school books have had the "kaiser's past" torn out, so all that now remains to be done is to remove the kaiser's mayor.

Riga has opened her gates to the German knicks. What German fighting could not accomplish, Russian lethargy has done.

Fishermen will not ignore the appeal to leave the north branch alone and give the fish a chance to thrive and populate the water.

Children buried to death. How often the heading is seen and in 90 per cent of the fatalities the parents have left them alone in the house.

President Wilson might squish some of the pro-German propaganda, "disguised behind specious phrases," if he put the ban on some of the Hearst papers.

R. B. Bennett, M.P., exhibits an unsuspected sense of humor or sarcasm when he refers to Hon. Bob Rogers as "serene in the consciousness of his own integrity."

Official war badges to distinguish returned soldiers have been promised for many months, but have not yet been distributed. It's well there were some unofficial (but highly treasured) badges.

\$4,000 WORTH OF OPIUM AND OTHER DRUGS SEIZED

Five Chinamen Are Arrested in Vancouver.

VANCOUVER, Sept. 5.—Opium, cocaine and morphine, worth nearly \$4,000, was seized by the police in a raid at 127 Pender street east, today. Five Chinese were arrested. A ten-quart tin full of opium and nearly one thousand empty opium tins were found. The police believe the place raided was the chief distributing point for the opium traffic for Vancouver and district.

REV. JOHN DAWSON COMING TO LONDON

KINGSTON, Sept. 5.—Rev. John Dawson, for the past seven years pastor of the Presbyterian church at Portmouth and Collins Bay, has resigned, and is leaving Monday next for London, where he will take a position under the hospital's commission. Rev. Mr. Dawson is a graduate of Queen's University and for some years has taken an active part in sports at the college. He has several years been secretary of the athletic committee of Queen's. His resignation has been accepted by the Kingston Presbytery with sincere regret, as Mr. Dawson is a young man and very popular. He has only carried on the work in the two churches and has been one of the most prominent ministers in the presbytery.

The Advertiser's Daily Short Story

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LOVE AND SACRIFICE.

By Lois Ensleigh.

"Not a thing in the world, thank you. You've been too good—sent too much money on me already," answered Catharine, holding her hand thoughtfully in the water.

"Fred Winthrop shut off some gas and bowed the boat down a little. There was no hurry to get home—the day was theirs."

"I haven't done anything," he denied. "But I feel so gloriously happy just this minute I'd like to play the whole world for you and let you play ball with it!" Catharine laughed. "In its present condition it's so loaded with love, it's playing with a grenade. I'd blow myself up. By the way, that box of books came yesterday and they look fascinating. If I don't put in an appearance for a week you'll find me reading the latest fiction and musing my digestion with the last box of candy you sent. I've eaten up in three weeks you've sent me twenty pounds. That would spoil an armor-plate stomach."

"Don't eat it!" "I don't. I gave five pounds to the Bryn Mawr children at the hotel and five to Aunt Mary."

"That's right," he laughed. "But it's such a waste of money," she protested. "Nothing's a waste of money if it makes you think of me for five minutes."

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Rural Western Ontario Exemption Tribunals

OTTAWA, Sept. 5.—It is understood that exemption tribunals for rural districts of Western Ontario in connection with compulsory service will be located as follows:

Brace North—Port Elgin, Kincardine, Wardenburg, and Wardenburg.

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EX-KINCARDINE T.P. COUNCILLOR PASSES AWAY

Succumbs in Walkerton Hospital After Operation.

KINCARDINE, Sept. 5.—The death of Alexander Fair, aged 52, Durham road, occurred at Walkerton Hospital on Sunday, where he had undergone an operation for appendicitis. The late Mr. Fair was one of Kincardine Township's well-known farmers. He served several terms in the township council. He was a Conservative and a Methodist. He leaves a widow and eight children—six daughters and two sons.

FIELD DAY MONDAY. KINCARDINE, Sept. 5.—The ever alert fire department celebrated Labor Day here with a field day of sports. All over and above expenses are to go to the Red Cross Society. There was a good turnout and the society will receive a handsome sum. In the evening a Red Cross concert was given to a crowded house in the town hall.

DORCHESTER. DORCHESTER, Sept. 5.—Mrs. Thomas McParlane, accompanied by her brother, Dr. Morrison of Kansas, and Mrs. M. Morrison of Dundee, are in the town hall for the funeral of their mother, Mrs. Lucy Morrison, who was buried there yesterday afternoon in the Presbyterian cemetery.

Miss Jessie Ford left to take charge of a school in Sombra. The union prayer service in connection with the Red Cross Society, which was discontinued throughout August, was resumed tonight, and will be continued weekly. The public school reopened here yesterday with Miss Cecil Morrison of Owen Sound as principal, and Miss Ruby Wilson of Stratford as assistant.

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