

CANADA'S PART IN THE WAR.

The Canadian people have refused nothing that was needed for the successful prosecution of the war.

Men were called for and more than 400,000 crossed the Atlantic to fight with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Many thousands more joined Imperial units and thousands of Canadians are serving with the Royal Navy and still other thousands with the Flying Corps.

The call came for munitions. Canada surprised herself, the Empire and the world by her great production of munitions of various kinds and the rapid organization of factories to increase such output.

Money was needed. Millions of dollars beyond the expectation of any one were subscribed to Government war loans. Millions more were raised for Patriotic Fund and Red Cross purposes.

More ships were required. Shipyards on the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Great Lakes are to-day engaged in the construction of vessels.

Conservation of food became necessary and the people of Canada are conserving food. It is difficult to change our habits but it is being done. Wheat is being saved by the use of corn and other cereals. Pork and beef are being saved by the increased consumption of fish. Much has already been done and the effort is becoming more general and the results more gratifying.

The call has now been sounded for increased production of food. The need is very great if the Allies are to be given the support from this country which they require. With all the accessible reserves of food now exhausted, and a grave shortage in the present supply to meet the demands before the next harvest, the situation calls for a tremendous effort.

The outlook for production of foodstuffs in Europe next year is distinctly unfavourable. France has been dependent upon intensive cultivation of land, which in turn has required an abundant use of fertilizers, but since the beginning of the war the available supply of fertilizers in Europe has dwindled, and the land of France has deteriorated until to-day it is incapable of large production. The 1917 cereal harvest in France was less than half that of a normal pre-war year. In Great Britain, much new land has been brought under cultivation by the aid of tractors, which have also been used to some extent in France, but there is little prospect of much improvement in production in Europe while the shipping shortage prevents the transportation from overseas of nitrates, phosphates and other fertilizing supplies. Indeed, the Allies must be prepared for even poorer crops in 1918 than those of the current year.

Canadians have not failed in their response to the other calls, nor will they fail in this great responsibility of helping to feed the Allies by increasing production. No longer is it a question of doing our bit. Each and every one of us must do his or her utmost to produce and conserve food. Let us send the message to the battle front, "Trust Canada," and then put forth all our powers to make good that promise by producing every possible ounce of food.