

soon as the leukocytes are ready they are rushed to the front through the blood stream to meet the invader. In other words, when the alarm is sounded the business of munitions making and of transporting war material is begun. Before the onslaught, the soldier's opsonic index, or efficiency for resisting disease, was perhaps only twenty-five per cent. Now it has jumped to probably fifty per cent.; and the enemy is checked.

But now comes another attack. The physicians this time inject 1,000,000,000 dead cells. Now the supply of leukocytes is multiplied, by virtue of the facility acquired in the first engagement, until the opsonic index jumps to seventy-five per cent., and again the foe is repulsed.

But suppose a few million live typhoid germs had entered the system in the first instance. Then the body would have had no time to manufacture defensive munitions, the disease would have spread practically without opposition, and life probably would have been extinguished.

National defence is analogous to this biological process. Only when attacked is a peaceful country capable of preparing to fight.

Canada furnishes outstanding evidence of this fact. Up to the autumn of 1914 the Dominion had been virtually unprepared. It had a militia; it had garrison patrols. Imperial officers annually for two weeks gave instruction and drill in summer camp. The result of this nominal preparedness was a defending body that would have been helpless before the attack of any second class power.

But when the call came in 1914 what happened? Instantly a great people rose to the emergency; throughout Canada men sprang to the drill ground; factories hummed day and night, and before the year was out the First Contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force had been trained, equipped, armed, and sent to England, thence to proceed across the Channel and write an imperishable chapter in the annals of the great struggle for the liberty of the world. When the majority of these brave men had laid down their lives