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—AND—

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Reading Matter for the Soldiers

There are three societies in England which have interested themselves in supplying interesting and profitable reading matter for the men at the front. They are The Fighting Forces Book Council, The Camps Library and the Y.M.C.A. The latter proposed at first to raise fifteen thousand dollars for this purpose, and considered this amount to be the maximum of its ability, so many were the claims upon the purses of the people. But, a London periodical states that between two and three millions of dollars have been provided for the purpose mentioned through this agency, and that it spends three thousand dollars a day in sustaining its "huts" and other activities.

The last number of "The Bible in the World" reports that the British and Foreign Bible Society has also provided five millions of "Testaments, Gospels and Psalters, in more than forty languages and in a score of different countries, for sick and wounded soldiers and sailors, for prisoners of war, aliens and refugees and for troops going to the front."

The lighter variety of reading is eagerly sought after by the men for relaxation after prolonged and painful exertions. But there is a large demand for standard publications along the lines of industry and science. A number of men belonging to the "Workers Educational Association" in England have undertaken regular courses of study upon subjects in which they were previously interested. Some of the men continue to receive the papers, secular and religious, which they were accustomed to read when at home.

More is evidently being done in these respects for British soldiers than has been done in any previous war. Certainly the British army is not only larger but contains a larger proportion of cultured men than any which has gone before.

Britain's Financial Position.

In reply to questions addressed to him in the House of Commons, Mr. Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that at the close of the present financial year, the nation's indebtedness would be seventeen billions, two hundred millions of dollars. But, of this amount four billions of dollars consisted of loans to allies and to different parts of the Empire. The real debt of the nation would be represented by the balance left after the deduction of the later sum. Large as this amount is, the Chancellor said, it is a burden which the nation can well sustain. This is seen by the fact that Britain can borrow on much easier terms than any other of the belligerent powers. Great Britain, he said, is in the position of a man whose debts amount to twenty five thousand dollars, and whose income is the same.

Another authority basing his calculation upon the figures of the Chancellor states, that by continuing the present system of taxation, Great Britain could not only pay the interest of her indebtedness, but, also pay the entire principal in forty years.

The position therefore is not at all alarming.

A Splendid Donation.

In the fall of 1914, the Executive of the Grain Growers' Association of Saskatchewan appealed to the members for a donation of flour to the Empire. The plan was for each farmer to set apart one acre to the purposes of the Patriotic Fund.

When the harvest of 1915 was gathered, the wheat from these Patriotic acres came in and was sent to the mills to be converted into flour.

The result was seen last week, when forty-one car loads of flour came into Montreal on the C. P. R., for shipment. They contained sixteen hundred tons of flour, in forty thousand bags, of eighty pounds each, a total of three million two hundred thousand pounds.

The formal presentation of the gift to the British Government, was made by Messrs. J. A. Mahary and J. B. Musselman, the President and Secretary of the Grain Growers' Association, by handing over to His Excellency the Governor General, the bills of lading and other necessary

documents. His Excellency on behalf of the British Government, presented thanks to these gentlemen, who accompanied the gift to Montreal, with the request that they be conveyed to the Association.

The flour will be shipped to England free of cost to the donors, in fulfillment of a promise made by Sir George Foster, Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Training the Aviators

The selection of Aviators for work in the war areas, requires careful and prolonged examination. The candidate must not only be thoroughly acquainted with every part of his machine. He may be completely competent in this respect, and yet unfitted for the practical duties of the aviator. The eye, the ear, the heart, the nervous system must each undergo a series of important tests. Very much also depends upon quickness of decision as to the proper thing to do, under the rapidly changing circumstances of wind and atmospheric pressure, the tactics of the enemy and the liability to injury of the intricate and delicate machinery upon which his success depends. Science has provided instruments for the testing of the candidate in every way, some of which are able to measure reactions of sight, or hearing, or touch, or tremor of the heart, as small as forty eight hundredths or even seventeen hundredths of a second.

Only those candidates are accepted who reach a certain standard of efficiency. For the more difficult tasks the standard is more rigid than for ordinary flying. These precautions are necessary because of the great risk of life. When machinery is operated upon the land, or even upon the water, there is some hope in case of accident. But there is little hope of escape when machinery breaks down among the clouds.

German Soldiers Commit Suicide

"Everyman" says that in spite of endeavors by the German authorities, to keep the matter secret, six soldiers recently committed suicide. They had been heard previously, speaking of their hardships, their poor pay, poor food and complaining that the enemy's machine guns were in front of them and the revolvers of their officers behind them, such was their hard luck. One of these six was unconscious when discovered, but by careful attention he was brought back to life. Instead of thanking those who rescued him he burst into tears, and said he preferred death to his present life. German soldiers also embrace opportunities to cross the border into Holland and beg the Dutch soldiers to give them food.

A young English lieutenant tells the following story. One night a German officer shouted to him from his dug out, and the following conversation took place.

"Is it true that you have four prisoners out of my trench?"

"Yes, I replied."

"Right, I have three of yours. Will you exchange me three of mine in exchange for three of yours?"

"Very well, right you are."

"At five o'clock?"

"At five o'clock."

"On your word of honor, as an officer?"

"Yes, on my honor."

The exchange was made, and the British soldiers were received by their company with great pleasure. But, what became of the three Germans who were exchanged?

In the morning their corpses were seen hanging beside their trench. Over their heads was a notice, "shot for selling themselves to the English."

BRIDGETOWN MAN GIVEN PLEASANT SURPRISE IN KEENE N. H.

(From Keene, N.H., paper.)

A very pleasant surprise party was given in Charles W. Hudson at the home of his son Burpee L. Hudson 600 Court St. Keene, N. H., Thursday evening about sixty friends and neighbors being present. Mr. Hudson's home is in Bridgetown, N. S. He has been visiting his son, Mr. Burpee Hudson, and his daughter Florence O. Neaves for the past three weeks in Keene, N. H. An enjoyable evening was spent in games, etc., and refreshments of ice cream and cake were served. At the close of the evening Mr. Henry Hall on behalf of those present presented Mr. Hudson with a handsome pair of gold cuff links and a Derby hat.

The remains of Mrs. Henrietta Marshall arrived here on Monday, from Boston, and were conveyed to Port Lorne for burial. The deceased was a daughter of the late John Clark and sister of Mr. William Clark of Port Lorne. She has been a resident of Boston for several years.

OBITUARY

HERBERT O. MARSHALL

News was received Thursday, Aug. 24th, of the death of Herbert O. Marshall at Keene, New Hampshire. The deceased was 26 years of age and the only son of Mrs. Janet Marshall, the matron of Acadia Collegiate Academy. The family were residents of Bridgetown for some years, residing on Church Street, where the father, Emdon Marshall, died in 1909.

Mr. Marshall has been living in Keene for some years and although not in general good health the news of his death was a severe shock to his friends.

He was a member of the Hampton Baptist Church having professed his faith in Christ under the ministrations of Rev. R. B. Kinley. His daily life bore testimony of a man who endeavored to walk in the Master's steps. He was also a member of the Manchester Union of Oddfellows.

The remains were brought from Keene by his uncle Edward Foster of Hampton. The interment takes place at Hampton to-day. Besides his mother he is survived by one sister who lives with her mother at Wolfville. The bereaved mother and sister have the sympathy of a host of friends in their bereavement.

JOSEPH G. RAMEY.

Joseph G. Ramey died yesterday afternoon at his home, 5 Quimby street, after an illness of five months, during which he submitted to two serious operations. He was born in Nova Scotia and had lived in Haverhill for about 29 years. By occupation he was a shoe worker and had many friends in this city who will sympathize with the afflicted family. He was 52 years, 5 months and 28 days of age. He leaves a wife, Mrs. Mary W. Ramey and a daughter, Miss Marguerite Ramey, both of Haverhill; two sisters, Mrs. Ellen Taylor and Mrs. Elias Durling, both of Bridgetown, N. S., and three brothers Perley E. of Haverhill, Isaiah and Ephraim Ramey of Bridgetown, N. S. A sad circumstance occurred in connection with the death, as a sister of Mr. Ramey died last week in Walham and was buried a week ago to-day. The departed man was a member of Crystal Lodge, N. E. O. P., and of Mizpah Lodge of Oddfellows, and Crystal Lodge, N. E. O. P., and attended Grace M. E. church. The funeral will be held on Thursday afternoon at the family home, 5 Quimby street.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Toronto, Aug. 26th to Sept. 11th

A great, natural park 246 acres in extent, a veritable garden spot with wide paved streets and walks, vistas of velvety green sward enriched with a profusion of shrubs, trees and flowers blended into harmonious effects. Stately permanent buildings, graceful and rich in architectural detail, valued in the aggregate at \$2,500,000. Beautiful grounds valued at a similar sum, models of landscape artistry, sloping picturesquely from the blue, crystalline waters of Lake Ontario along which they stretch for 1½ miles. This is the magnificent setting that adds so tremendously to the charm of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, the greatest short-time exhibition in the world. In this pleasant environment the people of Canada pause each Autumn to take a national inventory, to see how they have progressed during the year as a nation and prospered as a people.

The Canadian Government Railways offer, specially low rates from all points in the Maritime Provinces to Toronto August 31st, good for return September 8th, and September 4th good for return Sept. 13th. From Sydney the return fare on those dates will be \$28.80 from Halifax \$25.60 from Charlottetown \$23.55, and from St. John, Moncton, Fredericton \$29.00. From all stations on the line, the fares will be proportionately low. Single fare for the round trip will be in effect going August 28th, good for return Sept. 5th, going August 30th, good for return Sept. 7th; going Sept. 5th, good to Sept. 13th. Return tickets for fare and one-third will be issued from August 25th, to Sept. 4th, good for return until Sept. 13, 1916.

Further particulars regarding rates will be supplied by ticket agent of the Canadian Government Railways. It will be well to secure reservations on sleeping cars in advance.

Passengers from the Maritime Provinces will have the advantage of travel by the fast trains, the "Ocean Limited" and the "Maritime Express." Via the Ocean Limited connection is made with the Grand Trunk "International Limited." The "Maritime Express" connects with the Grand Trunk express trains for Toronto.

The Women's Institutes

Truro, N. S. Aug. 19, 1916

To the Editor of The Monitor, Bridgetown.

Dear Sir:—Will you give me a little space in your paper to draw the attention of the members of the Women's Institutes of your county, as well as all other women to the urgent request for more jam for the soldiers. Splendid work was done for this cause last year, but more is needed this year and if the amount sent can be doubled or trebled the result will be gratifying. The jam must be put up in quart bottles, and if possible the express charges prepaid to Halifax. Where this is not possible the Provincial Red Cross will defray express expenses. This is work that ought to appeal strongly to the women of Nova Scotia and I particularly beg the members of the Institutes to bear in mind the good work of last year and redouble that where possible. Anyone wishing particular information should write the Secretary of the Provincial Red Cross Halifax.

Thanking you for your kindness, Mr. Editor.

I am,

Yours sincerely

JENNIE A. FRASER

Supt. of Women's Institute for Nova Scotia.

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