NATIONAL SERVICE MESSAGE BROUGHT HOME TO ST. JOHN BY ELOQUENT SPEAKERS; WHAT CANADA EXPECTS OF EVERY PATRIOT

(Continued from page 1)

Mayor Hayes said he was sure that it was a great pleasure for him to see such a large audience on this, which he was sure, was an historic occasion. It was seldom that such an audience was brought together, and in all the history of the city there has never been an occasion for a gathering such as was present tonight. It was not necessary for him to recount the events leading up to the present meeting. The audience were already familiar with them and already understood how it became necessary for the government to institute the movement which is being carried on from the Pacific to the Atlantic, in the interests of National Service. He was pleased that such a representative number of the citizens of St. John were present to greet the speakers.

His Worship referred to the distinguished gentlemen who occupied the platform at the meeting. The gathering was honored in having present Lieut. Governor Wood, Chief Justice McLeod, Attorney General Baxter, Hon. Senators Thorne and Daniel and Hon. Dr. Landry in addition to the speakers of the evening.

Mayor Hayes then read a letter, which had been handed him by Major Tilley, director of National Service, from Hon. Wm. Pugsley, expressing his sincere regret at his enforced absence from the meeting, due to illness, and expressing his sympathy for the great success of the movement.

The speakers of the evening, said His Worship, were Hon. J. A. Murray, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. J. D. Hazen and R. B. Bennett, K. C. He paid a high tribute to the worth of the distinguished statesmen who were to address the gathering.

Hon. Mr. Murray.

Hon. Mr. Murray was the first speaker. He said that it was a very great surprise to him to hear the announcement that he was to address the gathering. He had been requested on behalf of Premier Clarke, who was indisposed, to welcome the distinguished speakers. He desired to say that he believed the people of New Brunswick were in hearty sympathy with the national service movement. He wanted to tender a very hearty welcome to Mr. Hazen and Mr. Bennett on behalf of the government. Both gentlemen had made their mark in the public life of Canada. Hon. Mr. Hazen had been for many years associated with the public affairs of New Brunswick, and since going to Ottawa had become a very conspicuous figure in affairs of the country. Mr. Bennett was also a native of New Brunswick who had brought fame to his native province.

Motherland Determined

Continuing Hon. Mr. Murray said he had but last week returned from England. While in the mother country he had seen something of what was being done in the nature of national service There was a grim determination in the mother land to carry the war to a successful issue. It may be a matter of one, two or three years, but there could be but one result and that was "Victory for Great Britain and her Allies." Notwithstanding the fact that there was very little about the German conduct of the war that could be admired, he was deeply impressed with one thing and that was the efficiency of the country from the standpoint of national service had reached a very high mark. The resources of the nation had been mobilized in every resepect. National service had been the watchword of Germany from the beginning of the war. The speakers of the evening had come to tell this audience what the people of Canada must do in the nature of national service.

The Minister of Agriculture said he felt that those Canadians who had remained at home were as ready as their sons who had gone forth to do and die to do their full part in the present gigantic struggle. Canadians, one and all, were prepared to do their part to bring victory to the cause of righteousness, liberty and justice. (Cheers.)

Hon. J. D. Hazen.

A magnificen reception was accorded Hon. Mr. Hazen when he arose to address the meeting. He said that like the chairman of the meeting he felt proud at being present and having the opportunity of addressing such a splendid audience. He also felt proud at the fact that he was sitting on the platform with so many men of prominence and standing in this community, but he felt prouder still that he was sitting on the platform with so many sons of New Brunswick who had crossed the seas to answer the call of the Empire and who had come back once more to be welcomed with open arms by those whom they went forth to defend.

It had been the intention of his respected and honored leader, the Prime Minister of this country, at the conclusion of the campaign, which he and Mr. Bennett conducted to conclude the tour by holding several meetings in the maritime provinces. Unfortunately just at the time of Premier Borden's return from the west events transpired in connection with the political situation in the old land that made it necessary that the Parliament of Canada should meet earlier than usual, and it was impossible, he regretted to say, for the Prime Minister to leave Ottawa at the present time in view of the early opening of the House, and the great responsibilities resting on his shoulders, and he had asked the speaker to go to St. John and Halifax and speak on the subject which was uppermost in the hearts of all throughout the broad Empire. He was very glad indeed to do so, and he wanted to bring to the citizens the sincere regret of the Prime Minister at his inability to be present.

Tribute to Mr. Bennett.

He was glad, also, to be associated on the platform with his friend, Mr. Bennett. The people of New Brunswick viewed with a very keen interest the careers of those who had gone to seek their fortunes outside the province. It was a pleasure to be associated with a gentleman who had achieved fame and fortune in other parts of Canada. Hon. Mr. Bennett was born in the county of Albert, now part of this constituency, and at the present time was the representaive of Calgary in the House of Commons at Ottawa. He was one of the most honored members of parliament, a gentleman who had given ungrudingly of those talents which have carried him so far upward in Canadian affairs to the present movement upon which he had entered and made such a great success.

It was not his intention to enter into details in regard to the campaign of national service, which was now being carried on throughout the country under the direction of Mr. Bennett. Following the line which Sir Robert had pursued throughout his tour, he proposed to consider for a few moments some of the things which Canada had done in the present war, with a view of drawing therefrom the moral that greater things could be done in the future and must be done, if the cause of liberty, freedom and honor would triumph.

Canada's Security.

It sometimes occurred to him that there were many Canadians who did not fully realize the advantages they enjoyed in being so far removed from the scene of the conflict. Let us contrast the peaceful conditions existing here with those in the theatre of war. Let us stop to consider our absolute security in Canada as compared with what is taking place in France at the present time. There the agricultural industry of the country was being carried on by the women and by the men in advanced years, too old for military service. This work was being carried on by the old men and the heroic women within a short distance of the theatre of the war, and they did not know the time that they would be attacked by the enemy. The eligible men of the country were engaged on the firing line, there doing magnificent work for the great cause of civilization and Christianity.

In Great Britain the effects of the war were being materially felt. The fishing industry had been greatly interfered with as a direct result of the war. Nearly all the trawlers had ceased to carry on the industry. They had either been the victim of the German submarine or they had been requisitioned by the British Admiralty for purposes of defense. As a result the fish supply, at the present time, was only a third of the regular supply, while in marked contrast to these conditions the fishermen of Canada were pursuing their calling without any dangers, aside from those incidental to the fishing under ordinary conditions.

Safe and Prosperous.

While the fishermen from the old country had been driven off the North Sea, or their vessels taken by the Admiralty, the fishing industry in Canada was never in such a prosperous condition. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of Canadian fish were being sent across the Atlantic to feed the great armies of the Empire. The people of Canada sometimes did not realize that they were free from the attacks of the Zeppelin from which the people of England were in imminent danger, while submarine attacks were equally impossible on the shores of the Dominion. The great protection which enables it to prosecute its ordinary pursuits in addition to turning out a vast quantity of war materials, the protection afforded its trade, its institutions, and in fact its very existence, was due entirely to the perfect organization that the Empire had established and particularly to that great service, the British Navy, which was as supreme on the seas today as it was in the days of Nelson.

The minister said he did not propose to engage in a discussion concerning the details of the work of the Naval Service, but to point out in a general way some of thee grat things that Canada had accomplished, and what could be done in the future. He had as a matter of fact, intended to give the audience some idea of the work of the Naval Department which had been very active in the present war, but as the citizens had come to the meeting to hear the address of his friend Mr. Bennett, he would pass over this matter to consider what Canada has done since the outbreak of the war in helping the mother country and in defending its own country, as there was no doubt that Canadians in fighting the battles of the Empire were fighting the battles of Canada.

What Canada Has Done.

At the outbreak of the war in August, 1914, a great part of the militia was immediately called out. Guards were placed at many buildings, bridges, outposts and strategic points. Adequate defenses were provided on both ocean coasts. It was necessary that garrisons be sent to Bermuda and Saint Lucia, while many minor war duties were performed. But the great task which faced the government in the early days of the war, and anxious days they were, was that of the recruiting, equipment and mobilization of the First Canadian Expeditionary Force. This great burden was suddenly thrust upon the shoulders of the already over-worked and under-manned Militia Department. But signal success crowned the efforts of the department and the work of raising the 33,000 men and the creation of Valcartier Camp for the reception and training of that fine body of men was soon well advanced. Indeed much was accomplished quickly and thoroughly accomplished by a non-military country, long absorbed in the arts and activities of peace. Early in October, 1914, that first Canadian contingent left for England in thirty-one transports, and it was the greatest armada that ever crossed the ocean. Since that initial effort the soldiers of Canada have won a world's praise, enlistments have gone to 380,000, and the Canadian military organization in Europe has expanded accordingly. The magnitude of this achievement will some day be recognized—all the difficulties which obstruct a great and many-sided undertaking will be measured and emphasized. In cooler and quieter days war-time conditions, favorable and inimical, will be clearly understood. Praise and blame will be more justly apportioned. As yet the results were unrealized and incomplete.

The Hospital System.

Hon. Mr. Hazen desired to say a word about the Canadian Hospital system in connection with the war. Hospitals, fully equipped with Canadian doctors, dentists and nurses, have been extended to Great Britain, France and Greece, and noble work was being accomplished daily.

Munition Manufacture.

The manufacture of munitions, Hon. Mr. Hazen pointed out had become the chief industry of the Dominion. This important work was under the direct supervision of the Imperial Munitions Board, a board of Canadian citizens, responsible to the Imperial government, and the Imperial government solely. Mr. J. W. Flavelle is the chief officer of the board, a man, who was one of the leading manufacturers of the Dominion, widely known throughout Canada, particularly in the Province of Ontario, and thoroughly competent to discharge the important duties the position involved. Mr. Flavelle had associated with him such men as Mr. Gordon, of Montreal, who was well known to many in this city and whose ability had given him a foremost place in the business life of the country. Mr. Gordon was also a director of the Bank of Montreal. This was the stamp of men who were supervising this important work.

A Canadian Work.

As affording a slight idea of the work that is being carried on in connection with the manufacture of munitions he desired to point out that there were no less than 600 clerks alone in the office at Ottawa, 3,000 were employed in positions as inspectors, while well up to a quarter of a million of men were engaged at the present time in the actual manufacture of munitions. Canada's record in the manufacture of munitions was truly a magnificent one. The industry was essential to the success of the war. "Without the aid Canada has given in the manufacture of munitions, it would be impossible to bring the war to a successful conclusion," was Hon. Mr. Hazen's significant statement. "And more than that it is a credit to the men engaged in their manufacture that the munitions are as good as the munitions manufactured for the Allies in any part of the world," said the Minister amid loud applause from the large gathering.

The Canadian Army.

The Minister said he would next dwell briefly on the activities of the Army. Up to August, 1914, the Canadian military organization with headquarters at Ottawa, was designed to deal with a force of about 3,000 permanent troops and to train about 50,000 militiamen for twelve or fifteen days during the year under peace conditions. This limited organization had been expanded and adapted until authority was now exercised over nearly 400,000 officers and men on the equivalent of a permanent basis and under war conditions. By successive stages the number of troops authorized for overseas service had been increased to 100,000 to 150,000, to 250,000, and to 500,000. Up to the present time 370,000 officers and men have joined the Canadian Expeditionary force. On garrison, guard and instructional duty, within Canada, there were some 12,500 more troops making a total of over 380,000. Canada had over 100,000 men at the front in France and Flanders, while about 140,000 men were in England and about 90,000 training in Canada. These figures excluded casualties and wastage.

"Somewhere in France," continued the minister, "there are engaged in active operations a Canadian Army Corps of four divisions, a Canadian Cavalry Brigade, and line of communication units including supply columns, munition transports, hospitals and depots. Several railway construction corps and corps of Canadian woodsmen are detached on special service. Elsewhere than in France two Canadian general hospitals and one Canadian stationary hospital are serving with the British expeditionary force in the Mediterranean. The 163rd French Canadian Battalion is at Bermuda and a company of the Royal Canadian Garrison Artillery is at St. Lucia, British West Indies. The portion of the Canadian force now in England is mainly located within the two Canadian training divisions, one at Shorncliffe and the other at Bramshott.

All Precedents Shattered.

"When it is said that over 260,000 officers and men have been safely transported overseas, the magnitude of the achievement can scarcely be appreciated. The Dominion has raised an army fifteen times as large as the British army at Waterloo, more than five times as large as the total force under either Wellington or Napoleon, and considerably more than twice as large as the combined armies engaged in that decisive battle. The armada comprising the first Canadian contingent carried one-third more men than the 'Invincible Armada' of Spain. The Canadian expeditionary force now overseas is greater by sixty per cent. than the army which France originally expected Great Britain to send to the continent. Altogether Canada has raised a force more than double the British army establishment before the war, if British troops on the Indian establishment, and native troops in India are excluded. The Dominion has enlisted several thousand more men than were enrolled in the regular British army, if the native troops of India are included.

Means More Men.

"In keeping with this achievement, the Department of Militia and Defense is now a more extensive organization than the British war office before the war began. Where a personnel of 306 sufficed in peace times, a staff of 2,562 is now engaged. There has been a corresponding increase in military expenditures. In peace we had an annual defense expenditure of $10,000,000. This has grown to $300,000,000 a year or $800,000 a day.

Canadian Heroes.

"Canada thrills with pride when it considers the splendid distinction with which its citizen soldiers have borne themselves in the face of the enemy. They were among the first to suffer a gas attack at the hands of German Kultur but even the lung-racking fumes discharged against them at Ypres failed to break their spirit. They stood their ground and saved the situation. Individual Canadians have been awarded many military honors, including four Victoria Crosses, in attaining which three of the heroes died. One alone, Captain Scrimger, of Montreal, survives. The total number of casualties amongst officers and men of the Canadian expeditionary forces up to October 11th, 1916, was 52,026, made up as follows:

Killed in action	8,134
Died of wounds	3,120
Died of sickness	452
Presumed dead	1,009
Missing	1,372
Wounded	37,939

The Best Paid Soldier.

"The Canadian soldier is the best paid in the world. His dependents receive a separation allowance generous in comparison with that paid in other countries. In addition, the government pays his dependent or dependents such portions of his pay as he may assign. The conveniences thus created on behalf of the soldier and his kin involve the maintenance of the 'Assigned Pay and Separation Allowance Branches' at militia headquarters. Organized during the war, these branches embrace 450 of a staff. Between 80,000 and 90,000 persons receive separation allowances and still a greater number assigned pay. Separation allowances now run into $2,000,000 monthly, while the assigned pay cheques sent out every thirty days aggregate over $2,500,000. Over 275,000 letters go forth from this branch alone every month. The soldiers are scattered over two hemispheres and their dependents reside for the most part in different sections of Canada. A ledger account has had to be opened with each soldier and each dependent. In the soldier's interest 50 per cent. of his pay is now withheld and credited to him on discharge.

Pensions.

"Military and naval pensions have been provided on a liberal scale for the disabled and for bereaved dependents. The award and payment of pensions is administered by an independent commission removed from all political influences and holding office for ten year periods. Even before the commission took over the work on September 11th, 1916, 3,500 pensions and gratuities had been recommended. Between September 11th and October 24th the commission granted 702 pensions. At the end of October they were being allowed at the rate of fifty a week, and they naturally increase as the casualty lists grow.

How Physicians Replied.

"In splendid response to the country's call, the physicians of Canada have thrown themselves, heart and soul, into the cause of the Empire and of humanity. Thousands of them, at home and overseas, have sacrificed large practices and considerable incomes, to place their knowledge, talent and skill at the service of the state and of mankind. Through the fine patriotism of these men, the government has been enabled to build up overseas a very extensive medical organization, the services of which extend not only to the Canadian forces but also to the Allied armies, on the western and near eastern fronts.

"The hospitals which Canada has established overseas are, in equipment and reputation, equal to the best maintained by any of the belligerents. Some of them were supplied and equipped by the generosity of individual Canadians and Canadian associations. The Canadian Red Cross Society has provided several, notably, the Duchess of Connaught Hospital at Cliveden, which in equipment and capacity is unsurpassed."

Magnificent Contributions.

The minister referred with pride to the magnificent contributions to the Patriotic Fund, and the manner in which this country since the war had become a money lending nation instead of a borrowing country. He also referred to the increased trade and the great volume of traffic that had been handled through the ports of Canada, including Saint John, since the outbreak of the war.

What the Women are Doing.

Referring to the important part the women of Canada are playing in the present great struggle, Hon. Mr. Hazen said that while the support of the men must be sought in this national movement, he felt quite sure that the call would not fall on deaf ears as far as the womanhood of the country was concerned. From the outbreak of the war the women had done their part and had manifested a patriotism and fortitude that had never been excelled. Many a farmer's wife, her daytime filled by the cares of her home, had sat up far into the night, knitting socks that she might add to the comfort of the soldiers. All over this country women were doing work in other directions as the men were giving of their wealth, and the women of this country had continued to work and had shown the fortitude of the Spartan mothers who caused their names to be remembered ever since Thermopylae. These women in Canada with smiling lips and with grave and aching hearts have seen their sons whom they hold dearer than life itself go forth to battle. He felt sure that Canada with such womanhood would continue to do its duty, to do even more in the future in order that the principles of equality and liberty, those principles of freedom, for which the boys were fighting, might triumph.

Hon. Mr. Hazen concluded his admirable address by saying what Canada had accomplished was only part of what the country must do. It was essential that Canadians must arise as one man and render national service in this great crisis. It was necessary that citizens of the Dominion should co-operate in order to protect the flag, to protect Canada ,to ensure the fact that German "culture" and German "frightfulness" shall not prevail, but that the principles of freedom and democracy shall remain forever more and that the great cause of democracy and Christianity shall be protected.

Three hearty cheers were given Mr. Hazen at the conclusion of his address.

R. B. Bennett.

The chairman then introduced the next speaker, R. B. Bennett, Director General of Canada of National Service.

On rising to speak Mr. Bennett was warmly received and was given a most attentive hearing as he made point after point on the necessity of a national stocktaking in Canada, both in respect to man power and the proper utilization of all the resources of the country.

He said he was glad to have the opportunity of addressing an audience in the metropolitan city in the province of his birth and talk to the descendants of the men and women who for conscience sake had left affluence to come to this land where they might continue to live under the British flag. They were men of vision, men who loved liberty and justice and the question for the people of the province to face was whether they were worthy of the traditions of the past and willing to face the responsibilities of that past.

This country was at war, not because it was a part of the British Empire, but because the parliament of Canada had calmly and deliberately decided that we would go to war in defense of the liberties of humanity. We must now fight to the end or take the consequences of defeat. Every war had to be fought to a conclusion, whether it took 30 days, 30 years or even as some of our wars had taken, 100 years.

Victory Not at Hand.

Those who cried "peace, peace, when there was no peace," were those who were fattening on the war and filling their pockets with the price of the life blood of their fellows.

The country had not gone into the war for the purpose of adding territory for they had enough already, but in the defense of common civilization and liberty and they must see it through to a finish, for compromise only meant defeat delayed.

Should defeat come to us, and it was possible, for the enemy was a long way from beaten yet, if it were possible that they should overcome the Entente Allies, and we should contemplate this possibility, Canada would become a prize of war and no such miserable thing as the Monroe doctrine would save us from having to haul down the Union Jack and to substitute the double headed eagle.

On the other hand if we were victorious, and he believed we were going to be, Great Britain and the overseas Dominions would be in a position to make war forever impossible and a peace that would endure.

What Must I Do?

The question for every one to ask themselves was what must I do? There was a great desire on the part of many people to escape their own responsibility by pointing out what the other fellow ought to do and to excuse themselves by saying that the other fellow was not doing any better, but this attitude would neither get them into heaven or win a war.

The proper spirit for each one at this time was an ardent and sincere determination to win and that each would do their part to make a new Canada and victory assured. This was greeted with applause, but the speaker told the audience that it was no use to clap their hands unless they acted in harmony with the idea expressed and was willing to do his or her share in rganizing the country for a more scientific prosecution of the war.

Benefits of Organization.

He had been in the habit of illustrating the benefits of organization at the different meetings at which he had spoken by the way a fire was handled in the country and in the city. In the country when fire was noticed the neighbors were called and a bucket brigade was formed but usually the building burned; in the city on the other hand the fire department responded to the alarm and in most cases put out the fire. In both cases you had fire, water, men and women, in the one there was organization and in the other only elbow grease.

If Canada was to do the most efficient work in this great struggle there must be some organization which by the use of knowledge, skill and science, would enable us to put out the fire of war and to make a proper adjustment of the individual lives of the Dominion. In order to do this it had been found necessary to have an inventory of some sort and the men of this country had been divided into classes, the fighting man, the working man, the paying man, and all three had their own sphere in the prosecution of this war.

The Fighting Man.

Experience had proven that the men who were best adapted for work in the trenches were those between the ages of 19 and 25. If at the present time there were in this country men between those ages doing work which might be done by men of 45, then there was waste and that might be classed as the bucket brigade. Young men were working as clerks, work which could be performed by old men and women, this again was the bucket brigade.

The men of the army and navy were divided into the several branches of the service, and it was just as essential that the civilian workers of the country be placed where they could do the most effective work.

It was a mistake to send a skilled machinist to the trenches when he might do more effective work in a munition plant and in England it had been found necessary to bring four divisions of mechanics back from the front to work in the shipyards, and over 1,000 Canadians had been taken from the front and placed in munition plants in England. In the things of everyday life the man who knew the most about the work in hand was the man employed and the same method would have to be used in connection with the prosecution of the war.

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