Famine and World-Hunger Are on Our Threshold!



—McCay in New York American.

THE SECOND-LINE TRENCHES

Food Production is the Greatest Problem the World Faces To-day

Owing to destruction by submarines, ocean ships are scarce.

It is much easier to protect shipping between Canada and England than on the longer voyages from India or Australia.

One vessel can make twice as many trips from Canada to Britain as from India, and four times as many as from Australia.

Therefore, every ton of food stuffs grown in Canada is worth to the Motherland, two tons grown in India or four tons grown in Australia.

Why the Call to Canada is so Urgent

If this country does not raise a big crop this year, not only will the people of Canada suffer but the Motherland and her Allies will suffer and their military power will be weakened if not paralyzed. Therefore, the right solution of the present war problem comes back to the farm, as to a foundation upon which our whole national and international structure must be built and maintained.

The farmers know that they are the last reserve, and that the soil on which crops are grown is the strategic ground on which wars are decided. To their care is entrusted the base of supplies.

To enable the farm to do the work, two factors are essential. The first is Time. Whatever we are to do must be done at once. Nature waits for no man. The second is Labour. Many farmers cannot plant the acres they would because they cannot get the necessary help. Many are afraid to increase their acreage because they fear they would not be able to cultivate and harvest an unusual crop after they had raised it. If they are to do the work that is essential for them to do, the last man in each city, town and village must be mobilized at once.

Every man not on Active Service can help. In every city, town and village are men who by their training on the farm, or by their present occupation, can readily adapt themselves to farm work. These can render no greater service to the Empire at the present time than by answering the call of the farm. Capable men and boys, willing to learn, should not allow their lack of farm experience to stand in the way.

Can the employer render a more signal service in this crisis, than by encouraging t ese men to help the farmer to cultivate every available acre, and by making it easy for them to go?

Ontario's farm lands are waiting—the implements are ready—the equipment is complete—the farmer is willing—all he needs is labour.

So short is the world's food supply that without increased production many in Canada must go hungry, and even with enormously increased production, we cannot expect cheap food. The world is waiting for our harvest.

If peace should be declared within a year, the food conditions will be no better, for the accumulated hunger of the Central Empires must be met. This will absorb a large part of the world's supply.

We do not know when this war shall cease. It is endless—its lengthening out has paralyzed the thought and conception of all men who thought about it and its possible time of conclusion. Three months—six months, we said; nine months, a year, we said; and yet two years and eight months have passed their long dreary and sanguinary length and there is no man who can tell how long this gigantic struggle may yet last.



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From the New York Evening Mail.
HUNGER TIGHTENING HIS GRIP

Lloyd George, in a letter addressed to farmers throughout the Empire said:

"The line which the British Empire "holds against the Germans is held by "those who WORK ON THE LAND "as well as by those who fight on land "and sea. If it breaks at any point it "breaks everywhere. In the face of the "enemy the seamen of our Royal naval "and mercantile marine and the sol-"diers gathered from every part of our "Empire hold our line firstly. You work-"ers on land must hold your part of our "line as strongly. Every full day's "labour you do helps to shorten the "struggle and bring us nearer victory. "Every idle day, all loitering, lengthens "the struggle and makes defeat more "possible. Therefore, in the nation's "honour, heed! Acquit yourselves like "men, and as workers on land do your "duty with all your strength."

So, for the honour of Canada's soldiers in France—and for the glory of our New-born Nationhood—let it be said of Ontario's citizens that, in the hour of our greatest need their response was worthy of their sons.

We owe a great debt to those who are fighting for us.

Organization of Resources Committee, Parliament Buildings, Toronto

Chairman: His Honour, Sir John S. Hendrie, K.C. M.G., C.V.O., Lieutenant-Governor of Cntario; Vice-Chairmen: Honourable Sir William H. Hearst, K.C. M.G., Prime Minister of Ontario; N. W. Rowell, Esq., K.C., Leader of the Opposition; Secretary: Albert H. Abbot, Esq., Ph. D.

WE MUST PRODUCE MORE FOOD