

Lieutenant Colonel E. J. Williams, M.D., D.S.O., to Colonel George H. Ham, of Montreal. He says therein "How I wish I could put my hospital on the stage before the Canadian public and have them listen to the stories of our brave wounded soldiers. For one would then realize that there was an awful war in progress, and would know what the boys are sacrificing to save our Canadian homes, thinking nothing of their lives, their one view-point being the destruction of the army of barbarians who have made such a colossal attempt to bring the whole world under the subjection of Prussian militarism."

What follows, and which I quote, should be graven on the heart and in the mind of every loyal British subject, man and woman. "We must bestow the highest honour and show the profoundest respect to these brave lads who are giving their lives for us by the thousand, and what's more, we must not forget those who are left after the war is over. Any country that neglects the ex-soldier deserves to perish. However, I am sure that Canada will deal justly with all who return but we must not allow a single man to be neglected."

Yes, a country that will forget its heroes should and must perish. A nation made up of men and women who neglect or forget the soldier who fought and died to save them should be wiped from the face of the earth. They were not worth saving. They are ingrates. They belong to those whom we despise as being mean and selfish and caring for themselves alone. They are as bad and even worse than the Huns, whom the men they forget vanquished. Henceforth, every one of us must ask ourselves what we can do to show our gratitude; to demonstrate how eager we are to stand by the men who stood by us. The basest of all human traits has always been and will ever be, ingratitude.

In Great Britain there are already several organizations which, composed of ex-soldiers, are determined to compel the Government to do whatever is required in the interests of the returned and discharged soldier and sailor. It is perhaps due to the strength of these organizations that, at a conference of the National Liberal Federation at Manchester, it adopted as the second plank in its platform the following:

"This committee pledges itself to secure that our sailors and soldiers shall have the first claim upon the consideration of Parliament as they already have upon

the gratitude of the nation; that none of those who have served in the national forces shall be allowed to fall into distress, either from lack of employment or from any other defect in our social organization; that those who have been incapacitated from following their old occupations shall be freely assisted to train themselves for new employments, and shall be further assisted by the State in every practicable way to establish themselves in business or as wage earners; that the pensions from the State to disabled men and to widows and children shall be sufficient in amount to secure the satisfactory standard of comfort, and that the Pensions Fund shall be generously and sympathetically administered."

Any organization of soldiers should include the demands contained in this plank in any request they make to the Government for consideration, and they should support only such party or government as is prepared to carry it out in its entirety. If success is desired, the returned soldiers must be united. The name matters little. Though it may be an essence of democracy to have both officers and privates belong to the same veteran's organization, it is not good policy.

The views of life and former environments of officers and men differ considerably. There should, therefore, be one organization composed exclusively of the enlisted men. The officers should either form a distinct organization to co-operate with the first or, if this is not feasible, join a civilian organization that is interested in the welfare of the soldiers and willing to lend its influence to promote their welfare.

Time is valuable and it should not be lost in vain recrimination, and division should under no circumstances be tolerated. The soldier has earned all he demands and the loyal and patriotic civilian population, male and female, will stand by him.

#### Nero's Generosity.

Little Nellie was the only girl in the class who could boast a father serving in the army, needless to say she was looked up to and posed as an expert on all military matters. One day the class was having a lesson in ancient history and the teacher read:

"Then Nero ordered his centurion to give the slave twenty stripes—"

"Lawks, that must have made him a blooming colonel!"

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