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## The Journal of Commerce

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## August 4th --- Canada's Memorial Day

CANADA in common with most of the civilized nations of the world is engaged in a life and death struggle to crush Prussian militarism. At the present time we are so closely at grips with the enemy and so taken up with the question of securing men, munitions, money and the other necessary supplies that we have not been able to give much thought to what might be regarded as the sentimental or the patriotic side of the struggle.

After three years of war our maimed, sick and broken soldiers are returning by the thousands, to fall victims to the Grim Reaper despite everything that can be done to prolong their lives. While it is unfortunately true that most of our brave dead sleep on the fields of France and Flanders, there is a rapidly growing number who are finding a resting place under their native sod.

Canada has no Memorial Day! What more fitting way to commemorate her entrance into the great struggle than the adoption of a Memorial Day on which the graves of our honored dead might be decorated and our thoughts turned towards the great cause to which they dedicated their lives? The United States honors its dead by an annual Memorial Day, and probably more patriotism has been aroused and a better knowledge of what the nation stands for has been achieved through these annual Memorial Day exercises than in any other way. To inaugurate such a service in Canada would be the merest tribute to men who have risked their all that freedom, justice and righteousness might prevail on the earth. In the years to come Canada will be proud of the part played by her noble sons who so quickly sprang to arms on that fateful day in August, 1914, when the peace and security of the world were menaced by the war lords of Germany. No event in the history of the Dominion has played such an important part as our entrance into the Great War. As a result of the part we have played in that struggle our whole history for centuries will be influenced. What better or more worthy action could be taken than to dedicate August 4th to the memory of the men who gave up their lives that this nation in common with others might breathe the air of freedom? As the soldiers return and join the Great Majority there will be graves to be decorated in every part of the Dominion. Those whose loved ones slumber under the soil of France can place a wreath on the grave of a soldier buried in the Dominion and thus renew afresh their affection to the far off loved one. The Great War Veterans' Association might well adopt the scheme as their own.

A nation does not amount to much that has

not a storied past. Those who sprang the most readily to arms and who fought the longest and the hardest were the people of the British Empire and of France, nations whose sons have inherited centuries of traditions. By offering themselves in defence of their native land our soldiers have more than succeeded in emulating the heroic deeds of their forefathers.

How sleep the brave who sink to rest,  
By all their country's wishes blest!  
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,  
Returns to deck their hallowed mold,  
She there shall dress a sweeter sod  
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

By fairy hands their knell is rung;  
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;  
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,  
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;  
And Freedom shall awhile repair,  
To dwell a weeping hermit there!

## A Big Job

IT IS a big job that the Finance Minister and the large organization co-operating with him have undertaken, in asking subscriptions for the Victory Loan to a minimum amount of one hundred and fifty million dollars—a job that can only be done through the cordial co-operation of all classes of the Canadian people. It is not easy for the ordinary person to comprehend what the figures mean. But a little while ago mention of them in any connection with our Dominion finance would have been almost startling. Canadians, like the citizens of other undeveloped countries, have been borrowers rather than lenders. They have looked abroad, to the money markets of the world, for the capital required. When the Government made an appeal to the great money centre of London, if they desired as much as twenty or thirty million dollars, they offered their bonds with fear and trembling. Now, among our own people—the people who in former years were not expected to be lenders—the Dominion is issuing, at a single operation, a loan many times greater than the largest loan ever placed by Canada in the London market. The people who such a short time ago were not thought of as lenders are this week asked to subscribe for at least twenty dollars for every man, woman and child in the Dominion!

It is a big job, but it can be done. The loan operations in Canada since the war began have given the people some knowledge of such transactions—have prepared the way for the burden and perhaps the sacrifice which the much larger operation of to-day involves. Some there are, it is certain, who find the burdens of the time all that they can bear, and therefore they will not feel able to respond to the present call. But so far as the situation will permit, every-

## Special Articles

The Victory Loan has Attractions for all Classes.

By H. M. P. Eckardt.

The Food Problem in Canada.

By W. W. Swanson, Ph.D.

Infant Care in War Time.

By J. W. Macmillan.

Banking and Business Affairs in the United States.

By Elmer H. Youngman.

Conditions in the West.

By E. Cora Hind.

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