

The only way in which this awful waste can be repaired is by production of raw materials, by manufacture of them, by diligence, economy and thrift. It is a national duty. It is a patriotic obligation of honor.

France, nearly fifty years ago, made a record recovery from the wastage of war that has never since been surpassed. Defeated by Germany, and sentenced to pay an enormous indemnity, by diligence, thrift and patriotic sacrifice, France, in a few years, not only paid what her enemy thought would be impossible, but became more prosperous and wealthy than before the war. Her splendid success inspires our ambition to surpass her, and points the way.

Every young Canadian should be ambitious in his or her own interest, as well as for the honor and welfare of Canada, to have as large a share as possible in paying off the war debt, and in making Canada the land of prosperity and plenty it was before the War. But, how can this be done? Every lad and lass of them all should fit themselves for some useful line of work or service. The wastage of young, vigorous, productive life was large. Over 60,000 lives of our soldiers were sacrificed. The youths of to-day will soon be called to the more serious tasks of manhood and womanhood—unfinished tasks of their brave defenders. The time for preparation is too short to lose or waste any of it.

Now is the time for them to learn how to make their lives count for most, to learn what things are most worth while, to learn the difference between necessaries, comforts, and luxuries, and to forego the latter that they may be surer of the former, and of a surplus.

Thrift is wisdom, not meanness or miserliness. Thrift is patriotic duty. Buy what you need. You often want what you do not need. Do not buy on mere impulse. Buy deliberately. Make wise and safe investment of what you save. Be generous, but not extravagant. The thrifty can afford the too rare luxury of generosity and liberality.

We can repair the waste of the War in a generation, as France did nearly fifty years ago, if we will, but not without the help of the boys and girls of to-day. It is up to them to say "*We can, and we will.*"

Owen Sound, Ont.

### Some Teen Age Classes

[Rev. R. G. MacKay, B.A., of Steveston, B.C., sends us the following interesting account of how some organized boys' and girls' classes in that place got the needed equipment for their work. The energy and enterprise of these classes are worthy of all praise.—*ED:TONS.*]

Like many other rural churches we were handicapped by the orthodox conception of church architecture. As organized classes, we struggled under this handicap for over a year, and then, quite normally, after the instruction of the Canadian Standard Efficiency Tests and Canadian Girls in Training, these groups demanded equipment fitted to their needs.

Plans for rooms, to cost between \$800 and \$1,000, were prepared. The boys and girls, at a meeting called for the purpose, were given all the facts, and with a list, properly headed, of people on whom to call, they were sent out in pairs.

Three days were allowed in which to do the work, and then canvassers were called together to a banquet to report. The pessimist had no place at this meeting as each team stood up and reported its success.

There was a rivalry between the boys and girls, and, as the secretaries for each side reported progress, the excitement at a federal election would have seemed tame in comparison.

When the totals were made out we had over \$500. or with the proceeds of a concert given by the girls a few weeks before, over \$600.

Our wise managers who had said up to this point, "It can't be done," now appointed a building committee from among themselves, and are going on with the work.

In this connection I would like to refer to another group of boys, taken largely off the street.

We were given a free lease of an old hotel, the boys raised over \$70, and we boarded up all but four rooms, which we had papered and lighted and furnished. The old bar-room, which was a large one, we use as a gymnasium, thus using the room in which many men were destroyed, to fit their sons for Christian citizenship.