

## THE WORK OF THE Y. M. C. A. FOR SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT

Mr. A. K. Yapp, National Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in England Tells of Work Being Done For Men in Khaki—Wherever the Soldiers are, Then the Y. M. C. A. Have Men to Work With Them.

Some account of the many activities of the Y. M. C. A. during the war and of the voluntary work it is doing for the troops both at home and abroad has been given by Mr. A. K. Yapp, Secretary of the British National Council and Chief Organizer of the War Emergency Fund.

This work is of the four-fold character for which the Association stands. "We try," Mr. Yapp said, "to provide a social centre where the men can find refreshment, play billiards and other games and have musical evenings. In the educational work of the association, classes, lectures and libraries play a part, and on the physical side we organize football and athletic sports. Right through everything is the religious objective. We seem during the war to have solved the problem of carrying on the religious work in a sufficiently definite way to be helpful to the men without wounding the susceptibilities of any. Roman Catholics and Protestants use our huts equally with the men of all denominations and of no denomination.

The great thing about our work is that there is uplift and inspiration in

it. It is not a mere canteen that is provided; and nearly all our helpers are voluntary who are assisting for the love of our cause.

### FOLLOW THE FLAG.

"We are working to-day wherever the British flag flies. In order to carry out the work of the Army Y. M. C. A.'s, we have sent out twenty men to India, including some of the leading dons of Oxford and Cambridge. We have sent men to Mesopotamia. Workers have been sent from India, and we are just sending reinforcements from home to develop that work. The same thing is being done in all the self-governing colonies. In Egypt, we have twenty-seven different centres," Mr. Yapp has a splendid series of photographs to illustrate this work, one showed the cheerful interior of a hut, another illustrated the incidental work that is done in the hospitals where patients are lying in bed listening to an interesting address, and a third showed thousands of men in Esbekia gardens in Cairo assembled together for one of the Y. M. C. A. outdoor concerts.

### IN EGYPT.

"From Egypt," Mr. Yapp continued, "we have extended to Malta where we have nine centres and others being opened. The Governor, Lord Methuen has given us rooms in his palace for headquarters, and at his suggestion we have extended our work to other camps and to Sicily. From Egypt also we have extended to the Dardanelles. We had a centre at Anzac. That, of course, is gone now. We have a place at Cape Helles and, of course, we are on the islands."

### ENDORSED BY SIR J. FRENCH.

"In France we have 24 centres. Not only are they in the base camps but we have also extended our work right up to the line and many of our places are just behind the trenches. We have recently received a very strong endorsement of this work from Sir John French, who wrote: 'It is the very greatest pleasure to me to take the opportunity of testifying to the fine work done by the Young Men's Christian Association. The problem of dealing with conditions, at such a time, and under existing circumstances as the war camps, has always been a most difficult one; but the erection of huts by the Y. M. C. A. has made this far easier. The extra comfort thereby afforded to the men, and the opportunities for reading and writing have been of incalculable service, and I wish to tender to your association and all those who have assisted my most grateful thanks.'

### THE WORK AT HOME.

"At home we are working wherever there are camps. You get an idea of the extent of this work by glancing at the map of England and Wales. The large map on the wall was dotted from north to south and from east to west with between 700 and 800 centres.

"A very big problem is presented," Mr. Yapp continued, "by the various railway termini. We have one of our places with sleeping accommodation at Euston and another is at Waterloo. We have already had to double our accommodation there. We have just opened a new place at King's Cross on a site given to us by the railway company. We are putting up another at Paddington. At Victoria we are just opening two very big places, one right in the station and the other in Grosvenor Gardens. Some time ago the King set apart part of the Royal Mews for men to sleep in, under our auspices. Then we have taken an old brewery in the Rosebery-road, and in the same neighborhood, at the request of the military authorities, we have just fitted up the Industrial Museum. This will accommodate thousands.

"In the naval centres the same work is being done. At the urgent request of the naval authorities we are just about to open a hut for the men employed at one of the submarine bases. We are also doing a great work amongst the colonial troops."

### APPEAL FOR HUTS

Turning to the activities still to come, Mr. Yapp said: "We shall continue to consolidate our work. Our ambition is to be wherever the men

need us. One of the biggest openings that lies before us is in the industrial communities where men are working on munitions for the war. We have established a few experimental centres for providing these men with recreation, food and sleeping accommodation, and so great has been their success that leading firms in all parts of the country are putting up equipment for us free of cost and are getting us to take charge of the huts for them. Work of this kind is being done on an enormous scale in certain munition areas. Our work at the various camps we are strengthening every day and in order to extend the work wherever it is most urgently needed we are making an appeal for one hundred huts before the end of the year. The cost of each hut varies from £300 to £800, the average cost being £500. Already we have had many very generous donors who have put up huts entirely at their own cost, many being memorials of sons and other relatives killed in the war. It is wonderful indeed how the money has come in for our work. Of course a great deal is needed, for it costs between £500 £800 a day to maintain what has already been done.

"We are also developing our work in the hospitals and convalescent homes. Wherever a lad enlists he will find a Y. M. C. A. hut; wherever he goes, whether to the western or to the eastern theatre of war, he will find it there also; and if he is wounded he will find the Y. M. C. A. following him and helping him still. Our urgent need to-day is for money to carry on the work and for help. We are getting a great deal of help from ladies as well as men."

## Onondaga Council Met on Monday

Middleport Village Granted \$100 to Build Sidewalks.

The regular meeting of Council was held in Mitchell Hall at 1:30 p.m. with all the members present. Several communications were read and filed.

Messrs. Peddie and Clark, representing the village of Middleport, interviewed the Council and asked for a grant of \$200 for building sidewalks, claiming that as the village had granted Onondaga nearly double that amount, it was not more than fair that Middleport should receive the same as was done by Onondaga.

The Council passed a resolution to grant \$100, providing the villagers organize an improvement society or committee to take up a subscription to the amount of \$85.00. It had been drawn gratuitously by the villagers and neighboring farmers and now they wanted the cement. The laying of the sidewalks would be done free.

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The Committee on Roads and Bridges reported that they had consulted the leading financiers of the country, and they had not the least hesitation in affirming that, however long the war lasted, it could outlast anything Germany could do, but in any case it was wise to apply its full power forthwith.

Those who asserted that if the war lasted until 1917 the nation could not "stay the course" were both inaccurate and injudicious. He had consulted the leading financiers of the country, and they had not the least hesitation in affirming that, however long the war lasted, it could outlast anything Germany could do, but in any case it was wise to apply its full power forthwith.

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## COMPULSION BILL PASSES SECOND READING IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

Only 36 Voted Against it—Lloyd George Declares He Refuses to Oppose Conscription and Court Defeat—Arthur Henderson, Labor Leader, in Favor of Measure.

London, May 5.—The House of Commons last night passed the second reading of the military service bill for immediate general military compulsion. A motion by Richard D. Holt, Radical, to reject the bill was previously defeated 328 to 36.

The debate on the bill developed no important new points. Mr. Lloyd George, the Minister of Munitions, presented strong arguments in its favor, and declared that he would rather be driven out of the Liberal party, and even out of political life, than to have upon his conscience the difference between the defeat and victory.

### SIMON OPPOSES MEASURE

Sir John Simon, the former Home Secretary, in opposing the bill, reiterated that it was not alone a question for the military to decide. There was no evidence, he said, that the bill would really add to Great Britain's national force and strength. It would create a maximum amount of hardship with the minimum results.

Nobody who had heard Mr. Lloyd George to-day, he commented, would suppose that he was the same man who a year ago emphasized the part Britain must play in the economics of the war.

Mr. Henderson, president of the board of education, and leader of the Laborites, in winding up the debate for the government, said that in the secret session the government had convinced a majority of the House of Commons that it was necessary to have more men, and the government had decided that 200,000 was the number that could be spared from industry.

The government had not allowed the same staff to override its views, and he was personally convinced that the alternative to conscription was defeat.

Speaking on a motion to reject the military service bill, David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, said that the bill would rather be driven out of the Liberal party, and even out of political life altogether, than have upon his conscience the responsibility of refusing the demands of the military authorities for men.

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any other class in the country. They know perfectly well that if through any neglect on our part or failure to bring up our resources Germany should triumph, humanity could not endure long under that yoke."

GROUP SYSTEM AGAIN

The group system of recruiting under the Derby scheme was re-opened yesterday by the War Office to give untested married and unmarried men a chance to enlist before general conscription goes into effect.

### COMMISSION GOVERNMENT IS ON TRIAL

Denver Votes Next Tuesday Whether or Not to Continue It.

Denver, Col., May 5.—Proposals to revert to the Mayoral form of government in Denver after two years trial will be passed upon by voters at a special municipal election on May 9.

The election was evoked through the circulation of three petitions, each seeking to replace the commission form and to supplant it with a mayoral system.

The first steps to affect the change were taken by the Charter League, whose petition calls for the creation of the office of a Mayor "with broad executive powers, whose duties to include those of a business manager."

The League says that under its scheme a saving of half a million dollars annually would be effected in the operation of the city government. The League names no candidate.

Two other petitions have since been circulated, one proposing a return to office of former Mayor Robert W. Speer, and the other seeking the election of W. W. Booth.

Under the present city charter, all municipal elections are non-partisan, but Mr. Speer is generally understood to be the Democratic candidate, and Mr. Booth to have the support of the Republicans.

At the special election in February, 1914, when the commission form of government was adopted, the measure carried by a majority of 7,849.

### EAT TIGER MEAT

Natives of Chinese Province Think It Makes Them Very Strong.

Wuchow, Kwangsi Province, China May 5.—Tigers are very plentiful this season. Last week five tigers were carried through this city in bamboo cages by native trappers. All the tigers were at least half grown and were offered for sale. Tiger meat is especially relished by the natives because of their belief that it will confer upon them untold strength and bravery.

University in China Helped by Yankee Money

Rockefeller Foundation Will Give \$150,000 to Institution at Shantung.

Tsinanfu, China, May 5 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Members of the faculty of Shantung Christian University located in Tsinanfu are much elated by the announcement that the Rockefeller Foundation, through the China Medical Board, will grant that institution fifty thousand dollars for buildings and equipment, and one hundred thousand dollars for expenses of faculty and students over a period of five years. The fifty thousand dollars will be used in constructing two new wings to existing college buildings, for the erection of dormitories for students and teachers, and for the further equipment of the laboratories. All the money is to be expended in preparation for medical education, or preparatory work leading up to a medical course.

## PARISIAN PRESS OBJECT TO THE NEW STYLES OF MEN'S CLOTHING

Paris, May 5.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The Parisian press has characterized as "undesirable" new styles in men's clothing that have recently appeared, and which, with the sanction of the Master Tailors' Association of Paris, threatened to become common.

The new garment is imposed by the new epoch about to open," say the master tailors. "Something easy and graceful, and yet sober and elegant as are all French, but bearing the stamp of the epoch of virility that has recently appeared, and which, with the sanction of the Master Tailors' Association of Paris, threatened to become common.

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Next Monday, May 8, eighty diners will celebrate in Washington the eightieth birthday of Uncle Joe Cannon as guests of Congressman Ira C. Copley, of Illinois.

"Cross between heroes and darning foos" is the way class president described seventeen members of Muskegon, Okla., high school senior class who have never been kissed.

Every time he fired the chauffeur his wife cried until he took him back, and when he sacked him for good she left him, grounds on which a California man got a divorce.

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