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EDITORIAL.

FOR the third time Christmas finds the Canadians under arms in the trenches of Flanders. What they have endured during the past three years; what they have hoped for, striven for—and in their thousands died for—is not yet in sight; but the spirit that carried the original Canadian Division through the second Battle of Ypres is still marching with the Canadian Corps to-day through all the mud and slime—and hell—of the modern battlefield, and will march with them, to the only goal that is worth striving for—Peace—and a Real Peace that will make a recurrence of this hideous nightmare impossible. "Berlin or Bust" in letters a foot high was the motto that greeted one when the first trains rolled into Valcartier in August, 1914. "Berlin or Bust" it is after three years—but silent now—written only in the thoughts of those who carry on.

And to our own folks whose dearest wish was that we should be with them at the festive board this Christmas time, just the old, old message, "A Merry Christmas and a glad New Year" from the bottom of our hearts. A Merry Christmas in the real and true sense of the word—not the abolition of all the old customs in the absence of loved ones, but the whole-hearted enjoyment of all that is worth while. Life is short and this old World too small for misery and long faces—look on the brighter side of life and keep in training at smiling ready to welcome us back. And if in the midst of all you pause with sober faces and silently drink to those who have paid the utmost price, remember that they too—those happy, cheery lads cut down on the very threshold of life—would wish it so.

Our Short Story Competition.

Our Short Story Competition failed to produce the results expected, the number of efforts submitted being—to put it mildly—rather limited; and the range of the stories even more restricted. To those who did spend time and trouble to forward us material we tender our sincere thanks, and a pious wish for a little more. The prizes have been awarded as follows:—

1st Prize (100 Francs).

Pte. R. G. McSWINEY, Inf. Bde. H.Q. and
Pte. G. E. FORSTER-THOMAS, Canadian Inf. (Joint effort).

2nd Prize (60 Francs.)

35460 Dvr. A. LEAVITT, Canadian Div'l Train.

3rd Prize (40 Francs).

16264 Pte. S. J. SMITH, Canadian Inf.

We regret that our normal procedure of publication twice a month has been disturbed for the past few months. Circumstances over which our control is extremely limited are responsible; and everything points to a continuance of these "circumstances." We can only promise therefore to get out the LISTENING POST whenever possible without reference to dates or seasons.

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