

foreseen, no longer of secondary importance. As one general staff officer who had previously been engaged upon directly military work said to me, "We are all educationists now." Schools which during fighting had been devoted to training in the military arts were converted one by one into training for civil employment, and so on; to name no others, we have now actual universities at both Bonn and Cologne. The work was taken up enthusiastically by whole units. It was found, as it became possible to get more definite returns of what was being done, that the army was succeeding in giving education to many who had up to that time slipped entirely through the civil educational mesh. That is to say, considerable numbers were found who had never had any education at all worth speaking of, in some cases literally none, coming from, for instance, those who had been employed upon canals, or those who had gone early to sea, and for such classes in the three Rs were, of course, the most helpful.

According to the latest returns, when the army has naturally lost through demobilization very large numbers of men, there are between 400,000 and 500,000 undergoing instruction in classes in France alone, and in addition to all those who have been lectured to in their units it is estimated that at least a million have attended the lectures organized by divisions.

Speaking at the school at Cambridge, the President of the Board of Education dwelt upon the size of the work, and stated that "nothing in the shape of adult education has ever been attempted on the same scale in the whole history of the world."

Throughout the whole of the work we have had three main objects before us: first, to maintain contentment; secondly, to broaden and quicken intelligence; and thirdly, to give men practical help in the work they intend to undertake after the war. This latter object, and the fact that except for the boys the whole of the work has been voluntary, has

necessarily led to a great diversity of subjects which we have endeavored to meet as far as it has been in any way possible in the local conditions. As far back as June of last year instruction was going on in no fewer than fifty-seven subjects, and that number has risen recently to over 160.

It should perhaps be emphasized that the scheme applies equally to officers and men, and both have taken advantage of it.

An officer not connected with the organization above referred to stated to the President of the Board of Education that he had been specially assigned to investigate questions of grievance in a certain unit, and after addressing

drafted into the ranks. Every man the writer knows who has returned in a physically fit state for work has not rested or considered a holiday until he had first of all satisfied himself of a reasonable prospect of immediate occupation, in the majority of cases they have gone into harness within a day or two of donning their civies, if not on the very day they obtained their discharge.

Challenge to the Young

In a recent issue of the "Fortnightly Review," Sir Sidney Low challenges a statement made by Mr. Arthur Waugh in his extremely interesting and informative volume of studies in contemporary literature: "Tradition and Change" that "youth has

these disposers of the fate of nations are past middle age, some of them are venerable. There is not a young man, or even a moderately young man, amongst them.

"Take the most conspicuous figures of all. Mr. Lloyd George has the fire and energy of youth, but he is fifty-six. President Wilson is sixty-three, Mr. Balfour is past seventy, Monsieur Clemenceau is a 'grand old man' verging on fourscore, Baron Sonnino is seventy-two, even Lord Robert Cecil is in his fifty-fifth year. International Congresses have usually been composed of statesmen well advanced in years. But this Paris Congress has a higher average than that

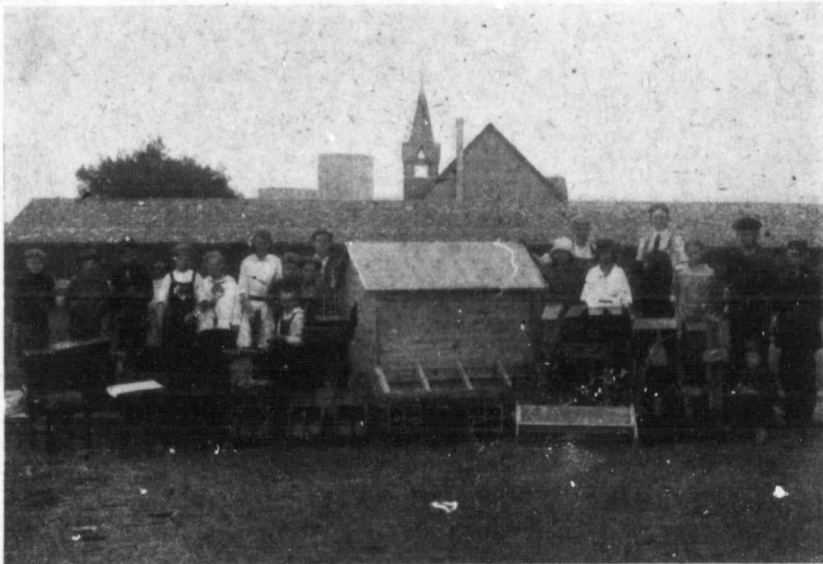
of Vienna in 1814, when Wellington was no more than forty-five, Metternich forty-one, and the Emperor Alexander thirty-seven, though it is true Talleyrand was sixty and Hardenberg sixty-four.

Done by the Older Men

"War and revolution are supposed to give opportunity to youth. They did in the last great series of world conflicts and upheavals; with the young Napoleon (seventy-and-twenty when he led his conquering legions across Lombardy and

brought Austria to her knees), the young Murat, Ney, Lannes, Hoche (died at twenty-nine), Soult (Marshall at thirty-five), Wellesley (thirty-four at As-saye); Nelson, closing a life of victory at forty-seven; Pitt, dying after his twenty-two years' premiership at the same age. But in the last five years all the greater work seems to have been done by the older men. Youth has died in its millions with quenchless heroism and devotion, and some young officers have held important subordinate commands. We have heard of colonels of twenty-five and brigadier-generals under thirty. Nevertheless, it remains true that nearly all the names of which the historian will take note are those of men who have left their youth far behind them.

"It is so in all the armies. There was scarcely a leader of (Continued on Opposite Page)



Some more Manitobans who are already not only "practical" young men and women, but are also artists in their own line of beautification.

the men generally, he stated that he would willingly hear any individual grievance provided it was not a purely personal 'grouse'; and he said that the one main grievance that was brought to him was that in that unit by reason of the difficulties of its organization there had been no educational lectures. In his opinion there was an absolute hunger for knowledge which was very significant.

From many sources we know what this officer has stated to be the fact. Our own Canadian boys are returning with a perfectly gluttonous appetite for a continuance of the educational pursuits they were pursuing when the call to arms reached their ear. True there are a goodly number of men "bumming" about who give little evidence of a desire to settle down.

But these chaps were of the bumming type before they were

everywhere come into its own and has thrust old age and middle-age into the background. 'We are living, beyond question, in the day of the young man; all the kingdoms of the world are in their hands.'

"Mr. Waugh says his proposition is 'beyond question'; yet I venture to question it. I am unable to see that the kingdoms of the world have been given over to the young," says Sir Sidney. "On the contrary. The old and elderly are more powerful and influential than ever before, and youth is conspicuously absent from the ruling and governing councils.

"As I write, the destinies of the kingdoms, empires and republics of this world, and all that in them is, with that of their peoples for perhaps centuries to come, are being decided by a select conclave of great personages sitting in Paris. Nearly all