

An attempt was made in a broadcast one Armistice Day to give reality to the figures by asking listeners to picture the million dead marching past the Cenotaph:

"Imagine them moving in one long continuous column, four abreast; as the head of that column reaches the Cenotaph the last four men would be at Durham. In Canada that column would stretch across the land from Quebec to Ottawa; in Australia from Melbourne to Canberra; in South Africa from Bloemfontein to Pretoria; in New Zealand from Christchurch to Wellington; in Newfoundland from coast to coast of the Island, and in India from Lahore to Delhi. It would take these million men eighty-four hours, or three and a half days, to march past the Cenotaph in London."

But nothing brings the stern facts home more forcibly than a visit to the cemeteries and memorials. Those who have accompanied visitors to the battlefields in France and Belgium are accustomed to the shock which they experience when, on the confines of the territory for ever made sacred by our men, they are faced with the great northern outpost of the dead at Lijssenthoek, with its 12,000 graves. During the first day of their visit, on their way from cemetery to cemetery, they pass under the Arch of the Menin Gate and find themselves in a vast hall curtained by long files of names, ascending and descending to left and to right, before and behind, the names of 55,000 men who have no known graves. And in a few poignant hours their minds move from bewilderment to reflection under the force of mere numbers which bring a new revelation or perhaps the sting of a forgotten remembrance that should never be absent from their thoughts.

PRINCIPLES AND PLANS

To guide them in dealing with the vast multitude of graves the Commission formulated, and obtained approval for, three general

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