

THE VICTORY LOAN AND WHAT IT MEANS

1. Canada's War Effort.

FOUR years have now passed since the Canadian people, as part of the British Empire, pledged all their resources to aid in overcoming the great German military force which, after forty years' preparation, was about to sweep with devastating might over Belgium and northern France. Our cause was just, and the actions of the enemy during the past four years have clearly shown that only the victory of the Allies in the present struggle will save the world from the horrors of German domination or of future wars even more bloody and destructive than the one we are now waging. To help achieve this victory, Canada has already done much. Cold figures can give but little indication of the countless acts of patriotic devotion already called forth by the war, but even a brief review of Canada's war effort may help to show what can be done by a nation in earnest. Such a review, too, should stimulate and encourage us to make the efforts and sacrifices which are yet required.

Men.

More than four hundred and fifty thousand men have left their homes in Canada to serve in the Canadian Expeditionary Force and other military and naval bodies overseas. Forty-five thousand of these men have already laid down their lives, and more than one hundred thousand have suffered wounds.

Munitions.

About two hundred and fifty thousand people in this country are now engaged in making munitions for the Allied Armies, and more than sixty million shells have now been sent overseas. Many workers are engaged in the construction of ships to replace those destroyed by submarines and mines. One hundred and twelve large ships, having a total carrying capacity of nearly half a million tons, are to be launched in Canada during the year 1918, as well as numerous smaller craft. Canada has also sent overseas large quantities of explosives, iron and steel, nickel, aluminium, copper, airplanes, agricultural machinery, timber, and railway material. The achievement of sending all this material overseas is the greater because it includes articles which were produced only in small quantities or not at all in Canada before the war.