



Just now is a critical time in our Empire. We have reached the crisis. We are, as it were, at the parting of the ways, and we, the people of the British Empire, must choose. We have sent our willing voluntary armies out, they have fought fair and gallantly in opposition to an enemy who has stooped to use the basest methods of warfare, an enemy who is organised to the very last detail as a war machine. We are, as I said at the parting of the ways, and the way we must choose as champions of the oppressed and down trodden, and yes, for the protection of our own hearth and homes is clear. We must become, for the time being, also a military machine. We must organize every available man in the Empire from the oldest to the youngest. Let there be no mistake or misunderstanding. Let no party of cranks of any description brook the onward march over the clear path of DUTY. As an Empire, we must organize—meet fire with fire—gas with gas—and ORGANIZATION with ORGANIZATION. It is the only way, and hesitation to get down to clear business in this matter of war is little short, indeed it really is MURDER. Every man in the British Empire must organize. Many many thousands of young men are still available for armies. Many that have been rejected as unfit for military work, may become hardy and valuable soldiers if provided with the proper training and physical culture. Many who cannot, by training, overcome physical defects barring them from the army, will still be useful for commercial pursuits and for the manufacture of munitions of war. And yes, we must not forget, too, the thousands of women who are anxious to do work that will release a man for the business of war, and they are efficient, too, these women of ours, and if given a chance will help us win hands down. Let our parliamentarians cut out speech reading. When one is reading a speech one cannot see beyond the paper—let us abolish petty rules and get down to the business of WAR—let us ORGANIZE.

We are proud of Canada! We have just cause to be proud; It has been decided to increase Canada's fighting force to 500,000 men. The young men of Canada, we are sure, will nobly support this decision, by making the big sacrifice that is the right and privilege of every Empire born citizen.

We have been favoured with current copies of "Now and Then", published by No. 3 Canadian Ambulance, 1st Can. Division, and the "Twentieth Gazette", published by the 20th Can. Battalion, 2nd Can. Division, and the "Forty Niner" of the 49th Can. Battalion, 3rd Can. Division. These publications are a credit alike to the units which publish them and to the Canadian Division to which they belong.

#### Our Exchange Column.

The following advertisement appears in a Vancouver paper.

"Two young men, 27 and 28, would like to meet two Old Country girls, object matrimony. One worth 4,000 dollars." Box 869 Province.

#### THE LISTENING POST

may now be procured from the following agents who have been appointed to make it convenient for all our present readers to obtain their copies regularly:

LONDON, ENG., 392 Strand, W. C.

IN FIELD Canteens of

5th, 7th, 8th and 10th Battalions, Canadians

Ex. Force Canteens at

BAILLEUL and ROMARIN

SOLDIERS INSTITUTE AT BAILLEUL

Y. M. C. A. 1st CAN. INF. BDE.

We would like to offer some very wholesome advice to these two "gallants." Join the Canadian Overseas Forces, and come to England, where they will find a very fine assortment of pretty, marriageable girls. Take it from me, there are some very nice ones left yet.

We would like to draw the attention of our esteemed comrade-in-arms, Tony Bell, whose ad. appeared in the "Listening Post" of Nov. 25th, that in the same Vancouver paper, there are two parties of the opposite sex looking for kindred souls. One is worth 20,000 dollars and the other, a widow, 30,000 dollars. If our advice is of any use to you Tony, we suggest the widow; not because she is worth more money, because, where love is concerned worldly possessions do not count; at least that is what the poets tell us. Personally, a little coin helps. Someone took a chance on her looks and married her, so she may pass in a crowd. It will also relieve you of the necessity of pleading a lodge meeting, or a late night at the office, when she asks you to take her to the neighbours dance.

We learn from a Toronto paper, that there is a movement on foot to have all the girls salute the soldiers who have returned from the front. That will be nice. Come on you fellows who are still undecided about joining. Won't you feel rotten to see your best girl salute all the soldiers' and pass you up?

#### Encycloedia of Military Terms

(Continued)

**Barbed Wire**—Someone has written that this was invented by Mephisto. After what we have heard about him it is surprising that he should invent anything of such an affectionate and "clinging" nature. At the front it is used for giving an artistic finish to a trench. No trench is complete without it. It is planted at night in order that the artillery may plough it up in the morning: A good crop of barbed wire has been known to prevent opposing armies from arguing the "point". When a soldier gets tangled up in it he says things which are not taught at school. This may be the reason why the Padre never goes on a wiving party or leads an attack.

**Billet.** On active service, a billet may be anything from a shed to a chateau. Usually the former. When troops are to be moved from one part of the front to another, a billeting party is sent in advance. These men receive explicit instructions to locate the most draughty and leaky barns in the country. At this they are experts. The generous hearted farmers then inform their cattle and pigs that they must be very polite and wipe their feet before walking over a brave soldier's blankets. He also gives the hens and chickens warning not to lay eggs where a soldier may crush them. The farmer's wife then pours a jug of beer into a barrel of water, his daughters practice a "No compres" smile and everything is ready for the reception of the "Soldat Canadien".