

Mass Meeting of Woman Hear Two Able Addressess on the Victory Loan

Miss Dorothy Thompson's Address at Toronto Heard Over the Radio. Mrs. A. A. Rose, of Timmins, Gives Thoughtful Summary of Canada's Place in the War Effort.

A small group of enthusiastically interested women from Timmins and district gathered at the Lions' Club hall on Tuesday evening to hear the broadcast address given by Miss Dorothy Thompson, who spoke to a large gathering of women in Toronto, and also the address by the local speaker, Mrs. A. A. Rose.

In Toronto, Mr. Brockington, who was the only male representative at the meeting, stressed the fact that woman's work was to console, comfort, and help. "Nobody know better than womankind the horrors of war," he pointed out, and added that there were nothing women would not do to help their men. "Sometimes," he added, "when a woman lends her son, she finds that she has given him. Every woman of Canada is a kneeling angel holding fate's front line."

Senator Iva Follis introduced Miss Thompson, saying that it was a privilege to have present at this women's meeting, a woman who has done so much to help Canada's cause.

Miss Thompson, in opening her address, remarked that it was a pleasure to be once again in Canada, and to be able to accept the invitation of the women of Canada "without in the least embarrassing my own government." Sometimes, she said, we tend perhaps to overlook some of the really great things that have happened, mentioning that the people in the United States are now more heavily taxed than ever before, in order to send products to Britain without Britain incurring a single debt to United States—except the debt of friendship, forever and forever.

The border between Canada and the United States is a symbol of the kind of world we intend to create in our time, said Miss Thompson. There is not a single soldier or fort on this border, and yet it is the safest kind of a border because the people of two countries have decided to like each other and never go to war with one another. That border, stressed the speaker, has something to do with the Victory Loan. Suppose it were a Maginot line. The cost of maintenance of an army on that line would be one-third of the national income.

The determination of the English-speaking people never to go to war had meant that we are richer than any peoples in the world, continued Miss Thompson. This determination is written into no treaty, but is in the hearts of the people.

A man is rich in this day's world who has a free country on which no bombs are falling. A "flophouse" in Canada or the United States to-day, is pleasanter than Buckingham Palace, because the people are free from the most abject and naked terror that comes from the skies.

Those people who complain of taxes have forgotten gratitude, because today the English-speaking peoples are building a heaven in the future world—a heaven of freedom from fear, a heaven where we give allegiance to no man except to him who we ourselves choose.

The victory loan campaign, said Miss Thompson, is a hard-pressed government saying "please." Canada's government is not saying as the government in Germany "cough up or else." No, she is asking her people for a loan, with good interest, and no investment is as safe as an investment in one's country, because the fate and fortune of one's country is our own fate and fortune.

"It is true that I do not understand men very well, and I have never understood the world they have made," said the speaker, adding that when men wished to flatter her, they said she had a man's mind. This, she said, was not true. "I have a woman's mind," stressed Miss Thompson, "and I understand women. It is our world that is at stake, a world that is based upon the home—a mother, a father, a child."

Miss Thompson went on to show how Hitler has torn children from their homes, has taught them to worship steel, and to look upon their parents with scorn. He has demoralized and degraded love, and he would bring about the complete ruin of society itself. His world is threatened with the emergence of a civilization without a soul, where there is no place for women except as cooks, housekeepers, and breeders.

"Every woman knows that human beings are not produced in machines. Every child is a separate individual, and that is why Hitler's mechanized world would ruin civilization."

Explaining that perhaps it was because women of pioneer days stood side by side with their men, Miss Thompson again pointed out that Canada and the United States were the first two nations to give up war. These women of the past, just as the women of today, set their hearts against war, but war came and came again.

Army, airforce, and navy must by an international, federal movement, to bring about eternal peace.

"Women of Canada, we struggle to end this cult of manhood as destruction," concluded Miss Thompson. "We fight to save, in order to rebuild," and then, she quoted from the American poet, Elliott, who resides in England. "A church for all of us, work for all of us, God's world for all of us."

"Canada's War Effort, and the Urgency of the Need in Relation to the

Victory Loan of 1941," was the subject of the address by Mrs. A. A. Rose, who gave a practical talk based upon the reports of the House of Commons, and an outline of what Canada is doing and proposes to do in the current fiscal year. "Not all can fight in the front lines or make supplies, but almost everyone can help to provide the money to feed, equip and transport the fighting forces, and to make the weapons and munitions of war," said Mrs. Rose. She dealt in detail with the reports of the Minister of Munitions and the Minister of Defence, following their recent visits to Britain. The purpose of these reports is to emphasize and translate into the most effective actions the desire of the Canadian people to put forth their utmost strength into the cause of freedom and to get further information as to how Canada's resources might be used to achieve a maximum effort.

Mrs. Rose showed how the programme for this year includes the expansion of the Royal Canadian Navy, and dealt with the army and the plans made by the government for it. She spoke in some detail about the vigorous and energetic development of the air training plan, and drew attention to the vast increases in production of war equipment arranged.

The ship-building and aircraft industries were outlined by the speaker, who paid tribute to British women. They have met the great emergency very calmly and capably, and everywhere they are playing their part with dignity and self-reliance.

Canada's War Appropriation bill for 1941 was discussed. This bill pledges Canada to the most stupendous effort in national history. During the present fiscal year, Canada's war effort will cost her people \$1,450,000,000.00. In addition to what is being appropriated for direct war effort Canada will send to Great Britain \$1,500,000.00 worth of munitions, raw materials and agricultural products, during the current year.

To meet the total burden during this year, Canada will require 44 per cent of the national income. The estimate of Canada's gross income for the year is \$3,950,000,000.

In connection with the Victory Loan, Mrs. Rose stressed the fact that in view of our increased population, our national wealth and national income, the government's request for six hundred million dollars is not really a very large sum in comparison with the Victory Loans of 1918, and 1919, when the government received almost six hundred million dollars each time, when it had asked for only three hundred million dollars.

"There is no question of the collective ability of Canadian people to respond," continued Mrs. Rose. "Our willingness and our readiness to make such changes in our normal ways of life as may be necessary is the question." In a survey made by the League of Nations, Canada placed first among countries of the world in her wealth of natural resources. That, stated the speaker, is something to have behind our war effort and war loan.

"The Victory Loan," concluded Mrs. Rose, "is an opportunity for the people of Canada to show that they can do as thorough a job voluntarily, as the people of Germany would do under duress."

Mrs. James Keene extended a vote of thanks to the speaker on behalf of the Victory Loan committee and the citizens. Mrs. Wendell Brewer was in the chair during the meeting.

Pensions One of Chief Subjects at Legion Convention

Address by Chief Pensions Officer.

The word "pension" in regard to ex-servicemen is misunderstood, delegates to the Northern Ontario convention of the Canadian Legion were told by Richard Hale chief pensions officer for the Legion at Ottawa, during the morning session of their conclave in North Bay on Sunday.

Speaking to approximately 200 persons in the St. Regis Hotel, Mr. Hale explained that a pension is not a reward for service, but compensation for damages, and compensation might have been a better word to use.

Claims All Good

Mr. Hale's address contained a wealth of information in connection with the handling of applications for pensions, as well as an outright denial that any spurious claims were being granted. Every claim made on the government is good, Mr. Hale stated positively.

The independent spirit of the Canadian soldier in making light of his trouble worked against them when applying for pensions, because Mr. Hale said, the soldier would not apply for pension until he was down and out, and then he found himself "lost in the mysteries and intricacies of the pension act."

Injury or disablement is the basis for pension, Mr. Hale explained. "We must estimate the damage, how much it is for a finger, a toe, an eye, a leg and so on," he stated. "We have a fair system. All men are treated alike,

and there is no distinction between the value of a left arm or a right arm, the pension being the same for either."

Mr. Hale at the outset of his speech paid tribute to the ladies of the Legion's Auxiliary. "Women took more punishment than we did in the war," he claimed.

Legion pension offices are located across Canada, and are available to any ex-serviceman or his family. The government, Mr. Hale said keeps a close check on all applications or claims, and denies a pension to any person who is not entitled to one.

Keep Illnesses on Record

For this reason Mr. Hale urged ex-servicemen not to be reticent about their illnesses or wounds, but to keep a record of them. On their death their widows will then have something on which to base their claims.

Referring to medical examinations for the present-day army, he called attention to the fact that approximately 20,000 men have been discharged as unfit. This was despite a Legion recommendation that only men of Class "A" category be accepted into the army. It is the Legion's proposal that men who have been discharged will receive no less than those of the last war, but the problem is a difficult one, he said.

Legislation has been passed, he stated, by which pensions are only given for something that actually happened in the course of army duty.

Presenting interesting statistics, Mr. Hale revealed that during the past 13 months 3,667 claims have been handled in connection with the present war, and 945 in connection with the last war. He told of the thousands of letters on file, and the myriad records kept of thousands of individual cases.

One thing which has been abolished, Mr. Hale stated is the dead line for making application for pension. "I hope it has been abolished for all time," he said. "They first made it seven years, then nine years, then they made it 1940, then 1942, but now we have wiped it out altogether."

"I hope for the day when every veteran's widow will receive a pension," Mr. Hale concluded, "because no one is more deserving than the widow. They are pathetic figures relegated to the sidelines after a lifetime of service."

Through the help of all branches, Mr. Hale said, thousands of homes will be made happier, and thousands of

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Illustrated Address on Gardens This Evening

Under the auspices of the Timmins Horticultural Society this (Thursday)

evening in the basement of the United Church at 8 p.m. Mr. John F. Clarke, official lecturer for the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, Horticultural branch, will give an illustrated lecture on "Gardens and Improvements." This

is an event that none should miss as Mr. Clarke is widely known not only for the value of his addresses but also for the interest and attraction of his addresses.

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