

# Duty of Canadians to Consider Defence of the North at Present Time

### Time to Drop Attitude of Doing "Too Little and Too Late," Says Rev. C. C. Robinson, of Geraldton. Not Fear Nor Panic, but Logic and Patriotism in Synod Resolution.

Recently the Anglican Synod of Moosonee, the Canadian Legion branches of the North, municipal councils and other bodies, and individuals have been calling attention to the urgent need for proper defence of the North. The Advance has been active in this even before the present war commenced—when German agents were gathering information relative to the far north and apparently making preparations that suggested only one thing. The Kapuskasing Northern Tribune has seen fit to discount all proposals for defence of the North, using the same old arguments and attitude that was adopted with such disastrous results to Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Rumania, Yugoslavia and other unfortunate places. It may be that a false importance is given to the attitude of "The Northern Tribune, but outsiders eagerly seize on the stand of The Tribune, because it is in the North and so in a position to know, and also because the editor is a returned soldier from the last war. In considering these facts, however, it is well to remember that the Tribune attitude is directly in contradiction to the feeling of the overwhelming majority of the Legion members in the North, and also that it is very apparent that the Tribune has no personal acquaintance with the far North, while those leading in the agitation for defence of the North are people who have visited the Hudson Bay country and know it at first hand.

Directly in regard to the resolution by the Anglican Synod of Moosonee and indirectly in reference to the others concerned, the following letter very effectively presents the case for those who believe it is the duty of Canada to see to the defence of the North, and not continue or condone the policy of "too late and too little."

Kapusksing, June 12th, 1941  
To the Editor of  
The Advance, Timmins

Sir—I have recently received a copy of the Northern Tribune, published at Kapuskasing, Ont., dated May 30, containing an editorial roundly condemning all interest in Northern Canadian defences. The editor uses such expressions as "unfounded fears," and "the hysteria of fear." I recall expressions being used some years ago about the Singapore Base in the Far East. Many people, too, laughed about the German built roads in the Danube Valley in central Europe. Yet to-day we are very glad of Singapore; and on the other hand we were not prepared for the highly mechanized German drives to and through the Balkans. Our attitude has been "too late and too little"—the attitude of governments and peoples alike.

Wars are won by visioning possibilities and preparing for them. Germany misjudged before 1914, and she has misjudged again this time, taking in both cases too short a view.

How does the editor of the Northern Tribune know "the real fighting will remain in Europe?" Are the only routes of attack against North America "via the air and water routes past Greenland?" He speaks of the "cold desolate, untenanted expanse that may never see a Hun in uniform." The word "may" is dangerous. Huns do not always infiltrate in uniform. And why limit a potential enemy to the Hun?

Why has the Soviet Union built its great Arctic Road opposite Canada's north? Is there any guarantee that either Germany or Japan, or both, may not yet co-operate with the Soviet? This possibility exists. Why not face the possibility and do something about it before it is too late?

The editor's remarks about the Anglican Synod of Moosonee are not in accord with facts. A member of the Synod lives in Kapuskasing who could have checked the facts with the editor had he been asked. I was present as a member of the Synod when the resolution about northern defences was passed. In the first place there was no hysteria and no fear. In the second place we did not censure the government; we expressed our thoughts in an effort to help the government think—the right of any legal person in a democracy. And we were not ungrateful for all that the Motherland has done for us as a Church. We did nothing to weaken the work of helping Britain. While we in Canada do all we can in the common cause both here and overseas, we can at the same time do more than we have done to help her on the possible northern front; by looking ahead to what could quite easily happen there. We did not pass any "stereotyped resolution;" we simply drew the government's attention to our intelligent interest in the North.

Consider the rapid advance in aviation, including the air attack on Crete. Look at a globe, not a flat map, in the region of the North Pole. Realize that on the collapse or defeat of Hitlerism, if not before, there COULD be a turning to and co-operation with the Soviet on the part of Germany. Then in the light of what you find, can you still call the idea of northern defence in Canada foolish? I do not see how any intelligent person can fail to consider it a far sighted and wise move.

Former war methods are out of date. Rapid mobility has come, and will become increasingly rapid on the sea, on the land, and in the air. Ranges of guns, ships and planes are steadily increasing. Let us look forward, not back, and be prepared, well prepared.

## Hitler Can Never Beat a Race Like the British, Says Letter

### J. McGale, of the Cameron Highlanders, Writes to His Sister in Timmins.

After referring to the cool and courageous way in which the British are accepting the devilish air raids of the Huns, J. McGale, of the Cameron Highlanders, writing from somewhere in England under date of May 20th, says: "Hitler can never beat a race of people with a spirit like that." In those words the young soldier overseas tells the whole story of the lack of effect on the morale of the British people under the bombings of the Hun. "Hitler can never beat a race of people with a spirit like that!" These are the words the soldier uses in writing a letter to his sister, Mrs. J. D. Brady, Timmins. He has been in England for some time, and has had special opportunity to see the evil work of the Huns, and also to note the attitude assumed by the people who have suffered the full effect of the vicious assaults from the air. "Hitler can never beat a race of people with a spirit like that!"

Much of the soldier's letter to his sister, Mrs. J. D. Brady, is taken up with personal and family affairs. He speaks about sending gifts to the children, and notes the difficulty he experienced in securing suitable articles in Iceland, where he was stationed for a time before being called to duty in England. He suggests that despite the war, it will be easier to secure souvenirs where he is stationed now than it was when he was in Iceland.

The following are some extracts from this soldier's thoughtful letter:—

"I have just got back from London. I was in there on seven day's leave. I was there on Saturday the 10th and there sure was a big blitz on. There were about 800 planes over. I went to a show Saturday night to see "Boom Town." I went home on the underground railway, and just as I got out on the street I could hear the planes overhead quite clearly. I just made the hotel entrance when the incendiary bombs rained on the streets and all over the place. Then the explosive bombs started to whistle down. That lasted until 5.30 a.m. Well, it is hard to understand the spirit of the English people. I saw a girl playing a piano in the hotel that night, and some of the people were singing and dancing, while the glass was flying out on the next floor. The people just don't seem to care. If you get hit, you're hit! That is the way they look at it. Hitler will never beat a race of people with a spirit like that. . . . Well, I sure had a good time in London, and I had some real good meals. I just lived like a king. . . . I received a letter from you yesterday dated March 22nd. I can not figure out why you have not been receiving more mail. We are told here what mail is lost, and I thought that mine had all got through. . . . I received 300 cigarettes from you since I came here. Thanks a lot. . . . I got your parcel with the photo of the kiddies. Your kiddies sure are growing."

## Impressive Event Held at Charlton

### Rev. John A. Callaghan Elevated to the Priesthood.

(Northern News)  
In one of the most impressive ceremonies Charlton has witnessed the Rev. John A. Callaghan, a son of Mrs. and the late Art Callaghan, was elevated to the priesthood.

The ceremony was conducted by His Excellency Bishop Rheame of Timmins who was assisted by the Rev. Major O'Gorman, Ottawa, and the Rev. Father Pelletier, Rouyn; Rev. Father A. S. Callaghan, Dundalk, uncle of the candidate and the Rev. Father J. Rohitalle.

In the sanctuary were the following: the Rev. Fathers McMahon, Jones, Cavanagh, and Jodoin, of Kirkland Lake; Fathers Paquette, New Liskeard; Sowinski, Englehart; J. Martindale, South Porcupine; Roney, Timmins; Bosvert, Earlton; Caulfield, Cobalt; Murray of Timmins.

At the ceremony the ladies of St. Stephens Parish served a banquet for the clergy in the parish hall.

Sunday morning at 10 o'clock the young priest sang his first solemn high mass in his home church. He was assisted by the Rev. A. S. Callaghan as arch-priest, the Rev. H. James as deacon, and the Rev. R. McMahon as sub-deacon.

The sermon, in both French and English, was preached by the Rev. Major O'Gorman who, 34 years ago, celebrated his first mass in Charlton. During his discourse he paid tribute to the parents of the young priest who had sacrificed so much to obtain the

Then our efforts will not be too late, or too little.

Yours, etc.,  
(Rev.) C. Cooper Robinson,  
Geraldton, Ont.

wish dear to his parent's hearts.

After the mass the newly ordained priest imparted his blessing to hundreds of people who approached the sanctuary rail.

Following the service a banquet was served in the parish hall during which the following spoke: Rev. Major O'Gorman, Rev. A. S. Callaghan, Rev. Father McMahon, Rev. Father Sowinski. On behalf of the clergy the Rev. Major O'Gorman presented Father Callaghan with a purse. On behalf of the parish a purse was presented to the new priest by Thomas Regan following an address given by Mr. Kearns. A further address was read by Ted O'Grady and on behalf of former parishoners of Charlton a purse was presented by John Morrissey of Kirkland Lake.

Children of the Separate School also gave tokens of appreciation.

Father Callaghan replying expressed his sense of gratitude to his parents, and regretted the fact that his father was not spared to witness his elevation to the priesthood. He thanked the clergy and the people of Charlton who had taken a deep interest in his progress both at home and at school.

Later a reception was held at the home of Father Callaghan's mother at Charlton when the young priest received many congratulations. Following a vacation, spent at Charlton, Father Callaghan will return to his new duties at Timmins.

## Successful in Medical Council Examinations

On Friday despatches from Ottawa gave the names of 389 successful candidates in examinations at eight Canadian centres, conducted by the Medical

Council of Canada, as announced by Council officers that day. Of the candidates twenty-one were women. These candidates may become licensed to practice in any province of Canada without further examinations, on payment of a fee and other provincial requirements.

The Ontario centres for the examinations were Kingston, Toronto and London.

In the Toronto list there appears the name of Allan J. Longmore, of Timmins. Others from the North in the same list are Marcus H. Little, Halleybury, and Gerald M. Wallace, North Bay.

## Mrs. James Durrell of New Liskeard Ninety-two Years Old

### Great - Great - Grandmother Still Able to Knit.

To reach the great age of 92 years, to be a great-great-grandmother, and still be able to knit, and to enjoy good health of mind and body—this seems distinction worthy of note, but when to all this is added the fact that the long life has been a specially useful one and to age is added the esteem and affection of all who know her—that is the honour won by Mrs. James Durrell, of New Liskeard, who observed her ninety-second birthday yesterday.

The New Liskeard Speaker last week had the following reference to Mrs. Durrell:

Mrs. James Durrell 92 Years on Sunday, June 15  
Enjoying better health than for some

time past, able to keep her knitting needles going still and to be about the house every afternoon and evening. Mrs. James J. Durrell will celebrate her 92nd birthday on Sunday at the home of her daughter here, Mrs. Sandy Wallace, Mrs. Durrell, whose maiden name was Mary Caroline McChesney, and who has lived in New Liskeard for about 24 years past, was born at Dalhousie, Lanark county, on June 15, 1849, a daughter of Robert McChesney and his wife, Mary Taylor. She is of Irish-Scottish ancestry.

The occasion at the week-end will be marked by a small party, with appropriate birthday cake, and a number of old friends of Mr. Durrell will be on hand to felicitate her at that time. The venerable lady has the distinction of being twice a great-great-grandmother, there being two representatives of the fifth living generation at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker of Kirkland Lake. The great-great-grandchildren are both boys, one of them a baby of a few months.

Of her mother, Mrs. Wallace said yesterday, when the Speaker called at the house, that she had been ailing during the winter, but was now considerably improved in health. Mrs. Durrell gets up each afternoon and into her chair and she stays up "as long as we will let her," Mrs. Wallace some times. Mrs. Durrell, who told the reporter she had done a lot of knitting in her time, has worked on four pairs of fine wool bed socks since Christmas her daughter declared.

The old lady herself jokingly remarked that her appetite remained good, and this week she was able to enjoy some nice brook trout sent to her by Mrs. Dan Jarvis, Mrs. Durrell came to New Liskeard in 1917 from Powas-

san, which had been the family home for many years and since the time they moved west from the Pembroke district, where she spent part of her girlhood. Married in Beachburg Presbyterian church, on June 19th, 1868, Mrs. Durrell and her youngest sister, Mrs. Jane Gillespie of Kingston, who is now in her 83rd year, are the surviving members of their parents' family.

Of Mrs. Durrell's own family, there are three sons and three daughters. The sons are John, at present at Hearst, William at Powassan and James in Timmins, and the daughters are Mrs. Wallace in New Liskeard, Mrs. C. H. Howe of Powassan and Mrs. James H. Fraser of Pembroke. There are 21 grand-children, 24 great-grandchildren and the two great-great-grandsons complete the family circle.

## Boat-House Guttled in Early Morning Fire at Mattagami

### Boat-House Across River Owned by Harry Boyd, is Badly Damaged This Morning.

At 4.44 this morning Timmins firemen received a call to put out a fire in one of the boat-houses across the Mattagami River. The boat house was owned by Harry Boyd and the damage was considerable with the building being pretty badly gutted.

H. Nadeau is said, by firemen, to have been running an engine in the boat-house when it ignited and caused an explosion. From the explosion the fire spread and soon the whole build-

## To Ensure Positions for Soldiers on Their Return

Legislation is being prepared at Ottawa to ensure so far as possible that men who give up positions to enlist for active service will be sure of their jobs when they come back. Labor Minister McLarty told the House of Commons at Ottawa last week.

The legislation is to be introduced when the House reassembles after the summer vacation.

Hon. Mr. McLarty expressed the belief that the men who go overseas should have as much security as it is possible to give them.

## Kapusksing Woman Freed in Illegal Operation Cases

At the general sessions of the peace at Cochrane last week Mrs. Bertha Tremblay, of Kapuskasing, was found not guilty by the jury in one case of alleged illegal operation. Another similar charge against her was withdrawn. Last month the two charges were preferred against her, but they are now disposed of. S. A. Caldwell, crown attorney, was the prosecuting attorney, while Gaston Vincent, K.C., of Kapuskasing, was the defence lawyer in these cases.

*To Every Mother Wife and Sweetheart  
.. Beware of the Vanishing Atlantic!*



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