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FOR SOLDIERS' FAMILIES

There are two special matters coming to the attention of The Advance this week in reference to the campaign being carried on for just treatment of the families of the soldiers serving overseas. One of these is the letter published on the front page of this section written by the wife of a soldier overseas. The Advance hopes that every reader of this paper will read that letter. Mrs. Tyrrell is well-known and esteemed in Timmins and her letter has special value because it is written with very intimate knowledge of the problem discussed, and yet without any personal incentive but for the common good. The whole letter is a valuable contribution to the discussion of the need for decent treatment of the families of soldiers overseas but there are two points made that The Advance feels can not be too strongly emphasized. The one is the truth that injustice and meanness to the dependents of soldiers overseas is building up a bitterness that will take years to wipe out, and the other is the fact that this parsimony falls with particular heaviness upon those families that are large in numbers. As Mrs. Tyrrell points out the support of several children is often too heavy a burden for two parents, and so when one parent is left at home to carry a double burden on half-pay, the result could be nothing other than the breeding of bitterness. In this connection, it is well to remember that this bitterness is not confined to the families that suffer by it, but spreads to all patriotic people who feel that injustice to the families of the gallant men who have crossed the ocean to defend the liberties and life of this land is an insult and a defamation of all Canada and all Canadians.

The other item that impressed The Advance in connection with the question of proper regard for soldiers' families was noted in "News Weekly," the timely publication of which Miss Judith Robinson is one of the editors. Under the heading, "Storm of Protest," News Weekly says:—"Plans to organize a 'storm of protest' directed at Ottawa in order to force an upward revision of allowances for soldiers' dependents, were discussed by Toronto's civic committee this week. Since September 16, when the Board of Control authorized giving help to soldiers' dependents who are in need, 244 cases of 'extreme emergency' have been helped out, city welfare officials reported."

The "storm of protest" against the neglect of soldiers' families should not be confined to Toronto. It should be widespread all over Canada. Read that paragraph about the "storm of protest" in conjunction with the last paragraph in Mrs. Tyrrell's letter, and make the "storm of protest" one that will really rage in every quarter of this broad Dominion—such a storm as will convince the powers that be that there will be no fair weather for them if they continue the present policy of leaving the families of soldiers to the menace of hardship and need. The letter urges all in this democratic country to exercise their democratic rights and to bring pressure on members of parliament, members of the Cabinet, and on the government itself to assure a fair deal for the dependents of the soldiers overseas.

WHAT POPPY DAY MEANS

"What's the big idea of the Legion carrying on the Poppy Day affair this year?"

"Doesn't the Legion know that its Poppy War was over some quarter of a century ago?"

"Hasn't the Legion learned that there's another big war on right now?"

These were questions asked The Advance this week by a man who apparently values a reputation for smartness of speech more than he prizes a name for sense and decency.

To answer the last question first, it should be said that no one realizes more fully the fact that there is a big war in progress now than does the Canadian Legion. The Legion, however, is doing more than simply agree that there's a war on. It is doing something about it. The Legion has been first and foremost in responding to any and every call of the present war. Every mother's son of the members of the Legion that could barge his way into the fighting forces of this war has done so. Many of them have taken their sons along with them. The rest of the membership has settled down to do everything humanly possible to hasten victory. They have encouraged recruiting; they have contributed to the limit of their ability to every patriotic cause; they have given most generously of their time, their knowledge, their skill, their experience; they have helped the soldiers serving in Canada; they have assisted the soldiers serving overseas; they have looked after the dependents of the men on active service. Members of the Canadian Legion have done their full part in every way in the war of to-day. Of how many other groups could the same be said? Certainly not of the small company of smart-talking critics.

The second question is just as easy to answer. Members of the Legion are well aware that the

war in which they served was over some twenty-five years ago. Too many of them, alas, have had a quarter of a century of hardship and suffering to impress the years upon them. But the Legion feels that even a quarter of a century is but a brief time in the life of a nation, and that the people who can forget those who fought for liberty and the right twenty-five years ago cannot hope that today the love of freedom and the service of sacrifice will bloom in such short memories.

And the first question answers itself in the replies to the other two queries. The reason for Poppy Day in 1941 is because what the smart-alex terms the Poppy War was over twenty-five years ago—because the Legion realizes that there is a fierce war in progress to-day. Poppy Day is carried on to help the men and the families of the men who risked their all a quarter of a century ago that liberty and the right should not perish from the earth. Poppy Day does honour to the men who fought in 1914 to 1918. It does pay tribute to those who sacrificed in the cause of a quarter century ago—the same cause for which the same kind of men—the same men, indeed, in many cases—and their sons, and other kin—are offering their all to-day. But Poppy Day does more than that, though that alone would be well worth while. Poppy Day gives direct help to disabled soldiers of the last war, providing employment for the veterans who make the poppies that are sold. Poppy Day provides funds for helping the soldiers of the last war and their dependents. But the Poppy Day of this year and last year goes even further than that. It helps build the funds to help the soldiers of this present war and their dependents. The Legion has extended its work to include the men of all the present day forces. The minute a man takes active service to-day he becomes automatically a subject of the care and help of the Canadian Legion.

Never was Poppy Day more proper, more needed, more timely than to-day.

Buy a poppy! Wear a Poppy! And be proud and glad to do so! To buy a poppy and to wear a poppy is to help and honour the gallant soldiers of the last war and the brave men of the active forces of to-day. It is to aid the dependents of the men who risk their all that freedom may live though they themselves may die—that other men and their families may continue in comfort and safety, even though the loved ones of the soldiers, the sailors and the airmen may find life a little more difficult. Poppy Day honours the brave and helps to ease the burden on the families of the courageous spirits who serve. Buy a poppy! Wear a poppy!

FOR THE DARK DAYS

A friendly reader of The Advance writes to ask for comfort and words of cheer for the trying times of to-day. It is pointed out that the war does not seem to be going so well as it did, that the situation in Russia appears discouraging, that the war has reached a phase where doubt and difficulty evidently are in the saddle.

The answer to all this is ready to hand. It has been published in every issue of The Advance for months on end. It solves all doubts, relieves anxieties, holds out the highest hopes for the future. It sustains morale. It shows the way to meet victory and reverse alike. It points the road to final triumph. It is all told in a brief paragraph—a paragraph that should be hung near every radio, that should be read with every despatch, that should be kept in memory at all times and in all circumstances. Here it is again! The noble words of a true British King:—

Still stands the motto of the King:

"Put into your task whatever it may be all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken. Let us go forward to that task as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high, and with God's help we shall not fail."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Capt. Balfour, Under Secretary for Air in the British Cabinet, has roused considerable criticism by an official request that Royal Air Force officers should not smoke pipes in public. His excuse for this deplorably discriminatory suggestion is that pipe smoking is untidy. Addicts to the pipe will be more inclined to favour the thought of a former chief of police of Timmins who was lenient and considerate in his rules as to his men smoking on duty at nights. He discouraged smoking by the men while on patrol but from long experience he knew that in the long hours of night duty smoking was a genuine comfort and support. "If you must smoke," he often said to his men, "be sure you smoke a pipe. Nothing looks as idle and untidy and so out of keeping with a uniform as a cigarette hanging from the lips."

The Nazis have openly given bonuses for large families. The Fascists have specialized in avoiding prizes to the couples who could boast the largest families in the shortest time. Even the much-cursed Communists have placed a premium on the number of children called to bless the Soviet state. It remained for Canada to apply a sort of discriminatory tax on large families. The fact that the tax is imposed in a sort of reverse way makes it none the less burdensome. In Canada the wife of a soldier who has two children gets an allowance of \$24.00 for those two hopes of the future, while the lady whose soldier husband is the father of ten still gets \$24.00 per month, and that's all, except that she is expected to keep ten

children for the price of two, and that's a trick that has never been done in any country in the best families. There is a romantic thought current in many climes that two may live as cheaply as one, but it remained for Canada to pretend that ten may be supported on what is too little for two.

In some ways Canada's war effort seems to be "all out," all right.

Hon. Leighton G. McCarthy, Canadian Minister to Washington, recently said in a public announcement that "Canadians who feel it their duty to criticize their country's conduct of the war should realize they are addressing indirectly some hundred and thirty million Americans in the United States." To this he added the suggestion that if Canadians would bear that thought in mind Hon. Mr. McCarthy's task would be lightened for him. It may easily be that Hon. Mr. McCarthy had also in mind the grateful idea that it would also greatly lighten the task of the part of a party who handed him his present proud position in which the work is less handsome than the pay. Miss Judith Robinson in "News Weekly,"

makes very effective answer to the Canadian Minister to Washington. In the first place she points out that "Canadians who feel it their duty to criticize the administration's mistakes, tardiness and negligence, to say nothing of the part of a party of a party's utter disregard for the desires of the people, are not criticizing the 'country's conduct of the war,' but rather finding fault with the incompetent work of their own paid servants. Another angle of the question is fully summed up by Miss Robinson in these words:—"Another thought for Mr. McCarthy himself to bear in mind is this: 'Canadians are not in this war to lighten his task, or the task of any civilian employee. They are in it to save their freedom and their skins, and their children's future and the world's last hope of sanity. Whether Mr. McCarthy finds his task at Washington lighter or heavier in consequence of their criticisms of Ottawa shortcomings interests them so little it would surprise Mr. McCarthy.'"

German scientists are said to have made discoveries that will permit of the use of ordinary wood as a food for man. Before the war is over the Nazis will be eating something less than wood.

Juvenile Who Robbed the Subway Service Station Given Reformatory Term

Had Just Finished Term in Reformatory and is Now Being Returned. Two Hundred and Thirty Dollars Taken and Not Recovered Yet. Six Other Young Men Sent Down for Terms.

A Timmins juvenile who has just finished a term in St. Joseph's Industrial School for breaking, entering and theft, was returned to that school again this week when he pleaded guilty to another charge of breaking, entering and theft. During the evidence it was brought out that more persons were probably connected with this most recent theft but so far they have eluded the arms of the law and are still at large.

The charge against the juvenile (his time was that he did break into the Shell Service Station at the Subway and did rob a safe in the service station of \$230.00 in cash. A gasoline torch was used to melt the hinges off the door.

In police court this week the juvenile who is only fifteen years old, admitted the theft and also admitted the long record that the magistrate read out to him. When he admitted everything the magistrate said that he was going to send him back to the school again for an indefinite term.

Six Timmins young men, just over the juvenile age limit, were in court charged with a variety of charge ranging from breaking, entering and theft to receiving stolen goods. One of them was given a nine month term while two others were given three-month terms. One pleaded not guilty to all charges and he was released. Two others were ordered to sign a bond to keep the peace for two years. The bond was for two hundred dollars.

Three of the youths, Frank Miller, Glyn Morgan and Jack Rochon, pleaded guilty to taking an automobile from 1 Riverside Drive and driving it around, later abandoning it, and they were sentenced. Robert Houle was also facing the same charge but he pleaded not guilty and was dismissed.

The same quartet were again charged with breaking, entering and theft, from a dwelling in Mountjoy Township and the same three were again convicted when they pleaded guilty. Houle again pleaded not guilty and was released.

Miller and Rochon were again charged with receiving an amount of stolen goods, knowing them to be stolen. They pleaded guilty to that charge as well.

Miller, Rochon and Morgan were again charged with breaking into a boathouse and stealing an outboard motor and a tool box. They pleaded guilty to this charge and were sentenced for that offence as well.

The same trio were charged with stealing a suitcase, a club-bag, a Kodak, a pair of opera glasses and other articles valued at about \$180. They pleaded guilty to this charge and were sentenced along with the rest.

Ernest Taylor and Edward Walsh were also charged with the theft of a number of War Savings Certificates valued at \$105.00 as well as two life insurance certificates, the property of J. Duffy. They pleaded guilty to the charge and were given another chance for leniency by defence counsel Gregory T. Evans.

For his part in the various thefts Miller was given a 9-month term on one of the charges and 6 months on the others with the sentences to run concurrently. Rochon and Morgan were given terms of three months each for their part in the thefts with their sentences to run concurrently as well. Houle, who pleaded not guilty to both of the charges lodged against him was dismissed.

Five men were charged by police with being drunk and four of them were given the usual term of thirty days or a ten dollar fine. Two of the men were in court and they took their places in the prisoners' box prepared to make the trip to the district jail. The other two men who were convicted didn't appear in court so bench warrants were issued for their arrest. The fifth man had the charge against him withdrawn.

One man paid a fine of a dollar and costs on a charge of illegal parking. Another man paid a fine of ten dollars and costs on a charge of using impro-

per license plates on his car. Another man facing the same charge was not in court so the magistrate asked that he be served with his summons personally.

Rene Richer faced a charge of negligent driving and was given a week's remand. Police claim that he was driving a car with four persons in the front seat.

A sixteen-year-old youth was charged with joyriding but was dismissed when the magistrate learned that although he had driven in the car, he didn't know that it was stolen. A charge laid under the Master and Servant Act was adjourned when it was learned that the defendant was in the hospital.

A woman, facing a charge of being mentally ill was given another chance when her husband said he would take her home and try and look after her. It appeared that the woman wouldn't stay at home so the magistrate told her that if she didn't stay home from now on he would send her down.

Church Official Gives Seven Modern Deadly Sins

"Health," the official publication of the Health League of Canada, has an interesting summary of what one church official thinks is the matter with the world to-day. This church official catalogues the seven modern "deadly sins" as follows:—
Policies without principles.
Science without humanity.
Worship without sacrifice.
Wealth without work.
Pleasure without conscience.
Knowledge without character.
Commerce without morality.

STICKING TO THE RULES

A Chinese student at the University of Michigan who memorized pirams from an etiquette book had his first opportunity to try them out at a reception given by the Dean. When a cup of tea was handed to him he solemnly responded: "Thank you, sir or madam, as the case may be."—Globe and Mail.



"It might have been Serious"

"Our little girl's eyes had a tendency to cross. We thought she'd grow out of it but a friend advised taking her to Mr. Curtis. By careful correction they will be restored to normal. If we hadn't had her promptly attended to they may have become permanently crossed. How thankful we are that we had her eyes examined in time."

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