# Britain's Debt to the U.S.A.

(By T. B. MacAulay, President of the Sun Life Assurance Company .of Canada, in the "Independent and Weekly Review," New York.

The suggestion has from time to time been made in a number of the leading ournals of the United transfer her West Indian colonies and Bermuda in part payment of her American debt. As these views are being widely quoted and canvassed may I ask permission, as a Canadian speaking to Americans, to make a few comments for the consideraton not for themselves alone. of your readers?

to the Mother Country by strong ties man, are enough of a handicap.

of sentiment, but she is also united But the case is much stronger. The to obtain a share in the mandates, strong ties of friendship, business before April, 1917, is not in question. to assume the expense and responsiin thy path. Keep us upright and Grand Trunk Railways. and constant intercourse. Canadians The American government naturally bilities of governing, defending and think, therefore, that they can view did not give any credits to the Allies developing these territories, and not this matter impartially and in the till after it had itself entered the merely to share in any commercial kindliest spirit.

ance with the rest of Asia. She tions? cared for the Monroe Doctrine?

to the merits of the struggle, prior would have happened, however, if the United States had intervened line. even then? The war would have been shortened by two years, millions of lives and tens of billions of dollars would have been saved, the condition of the world to-day would not be what it is, and the problem of the war debts would, in all probability not have arisen.

Without your aid the combatants were too eveniy matched, especially as one side had been preparing for years and the other had not. The struggle continued till all were bled white. The financial drain upon the nations involved was so great as to lives of our dearest and best.

ever, after you declared war before ford to be less generous?

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and the United States.

If there are to be cordial relations lieving that the United States had nation. between nations, each must endeav- as great a stake in the war before Lists of territories have been between nations, each must endeav- as great a stake in the war before Lists of territories have been the reader, as I offer him any other "The National," a solid through not merely from its own standpoint, wonder why we ask ourselves whebeen as a result of the war placed
thought that springs up in me by the train, leaves Toronto for Winnipeg but from that of its neighbors. Pos- ther it is fair that the Allies should under British control. Many of these way: sibly a Canadian is in the best posi-tion to set forth the other side of problem of those earlier years dur- expense. In any case, the Allies this question. Canada herself has ing which your people accumulated would gladly have given to the no direct interest in the British much of the wealth of the world? United States a generous share in debt. As one of the nations which Surely their awful losses in life, becompose the Empire, she is united fore the United States lost a single ing to accept. Even at this late date

war. The money advanced was benefits that might accrue. From the outbreak of the war, Ca- chiefly for munitions with which to The proposal, however, that Britain mercy." your people, as a whole, to recog- Franch, British and other troops nize that fact, it was as true in Au- saved the Allied and American cause gust, 1914, as it was later when the from defeat. Because, before the gallant boys of both nations were American troops could arrive, Amfighting side by side. Germany aim\_ erican shells were fired by British ed at world domination and, had she soldiers, (great numbers of whom won the war, her political and com- gave their lives in doing so) does it mercial control of all Europe, all Af- not follow that those shells must albeen at once established. She would Do Americans really wish the Britprobably soon have made an alli- ish people to pay for these muni-

would have been the Colusses of the | It may perhaps be claimed that world. Her eyes were already fixed part of the money borrowed was covetously on South America, and used to feed the Allied troops and developments there would have fol- peoples. Can men fight and at the lowed rapidly. With the naval, same time cultivate their fields, or military and financial resources then work at other regular occupations? they were sufficiently informed as ernments for their services. For small tropical connection? some time after you declared war, to the Lusitania incident. What | there were, of course, very few other American soldiers in the fighting fices or services in the war. But of

Americans are a proud people. know that they do not wish, in this matter, to stand on legal technicalities. In coming to a decision, them remember the stake they actually had in the early years of the war, and the purpose for which the money was borrowed in the later years. I feel sure that they need but to know the facts.

The suggestion has been made that even if the war debts be not cancelled, the United States might be any transfer of these colonies, do accept from Great Britain a transfer of an equal amount of the debts owing to Britain by other Allied be almost unbelievable, and still countries. They might be fair to more terrible was the drain on the Britain, but how about the others? Do Americans think that either Bri-When at last you threw your vast tain or the United States should expower into the scales, that great ad- act payment from France, which has dition to the cause of civilization and bled at every pore? What would righteousness was decisive. When they think if Britain were to demand you did act, you acted vigorously, a transfer of some of the old French wholeheartedly and effectively. We are all unspeakably appreciative of debt of France to her? Britain will pect for the other's views and a sympathetic restrementation bringing the war to a conclusion. Her by her Allies, without bargaining that the conclusion of the left to definite the debt of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views and a sympathetic restrementation of the old French other's views It was some considerable time, how- or reward. Can the United States af\_ | tude on these questions.

your armies were organized, trained Britons are just as proud as Amand transported to France, and dur- ericans, which is but natural as they | tled out of court? ing that period, you could render but are of the same stock. Informal

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United States entered the war, and the United States government confrom that date until the American siders that the cancellation of these troops arrived? For all who did not debts would be a reasonable part of wish a German world, for all free its contribution, they will accept nal of his famous Travels with a peoples, including Britain, Canada nothing. They do not ask that the money be written off as a bad debt. The war was fought, not merely If your government considers that that for some reason was left out of Canada offers patrons optional routes. with lives, but with money. The the money should be paid, I am sure financial burden fell chiefly on Bri- that the British government will pay tain. She had to advance huge sums to the last dollar, though it be neces- Englishman, Mr. William Harris Ar- Port Arthur-Fort William Route, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Comto her allies. Had she not done so, sary to add still further to the taxes Germany would have achieved a on her already overburdened people. Germany would have achieved a on her ancas, to raise the premium original manuscripts, has given it to versa. This means that you are in States that Great Britain should Much of this money was spent in height that they will be almost unyour own country. Never before in able to purchase American imports. choice bits. We quote: the history of the world did any na- In such an event the British govtion have such a stupendous stream ernment would no doubt be proudly of wealth poured into its lap. And silent, but that would not mean that this money was the life blood of na- the people of Britain or Canada this money was the life blood of nature people of the decision to be making them for myself, as one daily, and through tourist sleeping exactly what might have been ex- would make a sonnet. As I walked car Toronto to Winnipeg on Tues-If we Canadians are right in be- pected of a great, proud and rich

of sentiment, but she is also united But the case is much stronger. The to course she would be expected with thy continued favors follow us agent of the Canadian National-

nadians have considered that the fight the acknowledged enemy of should ransfer the British West Inmen of Britain and of the Dominions the United States. Had the Ameri- dies and Bermuda, is something very were fighting the battles of the can armies been then in France these different. To transfer these ancient day, O Lord, and a sufficiency of United States, as well as cf our own cannon and shells could have been colonies would be to begin the dis-Empire and of our Allies. In the used by them, but the Americans memberment of the Empire. Is that early days of the war I have heard were not yet there in force, and the to be Britain's reward? Even if the many Americans express that opin- Allied armies used them for the ben- Mother Country should be willing, opinions, nor crucified by disease, ion. Though it took some years for efft of all. In doing this, these which I am sure she would not, but ever in strength, constancy and there are two further objections. I know these colonies fairly well. They are incurably British, and would violently protest at being taken out men; and if it pleases thee, O Lord, of the British family and transferred take us soon in health of mind and as if they were mere property. Furthermore, if there is to be any transferring, Canada considers that she rica, and much of Asia, would have so be paid for by British taxpayers? has a first claim. The commercial relations between the Dominion and these tropical colonies are already important, and are becoming steadily more so. They are necessary to our future. The United States is indeed make offences to be forgotten and fortunate in that she has, within her own boundaries, vast areas of most productive land with all climates from arctic to tropical. We at her back, what would she have We used to hear of American "Sol- are not so blessed. These tropical they may lead simple and unsufferdiers of the Soil," and were told that colonies of the Empire are vital to ing lives and in the end die easily We do not claim that the United these men were fighting as truely us, and certainly not at all vital to States should have entered the war as if they were in France. If they you. Surely our American friends, at its outbreak, for the people had had been in France there would be who are themselves so fortunately to be awakened. It is doubtful if no talk of charging the Allied gov- situated, do not grudge Canada this

all the allied nations that were in the war from the beginning, Canada reward of any kind. No charge of an outing on the prize money. selfishness can be made against us. We ask nothing, and we want nothing. But we would protest against any settlement that would positively injure us, such as the transfer of our tropical partners to another nation. There can be no transfer except by the wish of the West Indians themselves, but if there is to you not think that we have reason-

ably a first claim? One of the strongest desires held by responsible men in Canada is to do their share in drawing over closer the bonds of friendship between Canada, the American member of the British Federation of Nations, and our great neighbor. To this end each

Magistrate-Can't this case be set-

Mulligan-Sure, sir. That's what little help other than financial.

For whom did the Allies sacrifice made, as was done recently by Rt. the lives of their men before the Hon. Reginald McKenna, but unless interfered.

### THREE PRAYERS BY STEVENSON

In Robert Louis Stevenson's jour-Donkey, appears a beautiful passage nold, who owns many of Stevenson's

or two myself, which I here offer to Sundays.

the support of thy kindly counten- Port Arthur with standard and tourance and hopeful spirit among the ist sleeping cars, coaches, colonist of this life, having brought us thus far, do not, O God, desert us, but etc., from local agent, or nearest humble, and, O Thou who equally guidest all mankind through sun and rain, give us thy spirit of great

A Prayer for Mind and Body:

"Give us peace of mind in our bodily comfort that we be not tor- improvement of the health of the tured with changing friendships or pleasantness walk in a fair way before thy face and in the sight of honor of body into thy eternal rest.' A Prayer for Friends:

"God, who hast given us the love of women and the friendship of men keep alive in our hearts the senseof old fellowship and tenderness; services remembered; protect those whom we love in all things and follow them with kindnesses, so that with quiet minds."

Aprize of \$100 was recently offered in Michigan to the most thrifty It would not be fitting for a Cana- man in the state. It was awarded dian to speak here of Canada's sacri- to the father of eight children who earned \$887 during the Pear and saved \$395. The self-denial of the wife alone has neither asked nor received and kiddles ought to entitle them to

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at 10.35 p.m. every Monday, Wednes-"O God, who givest us day by day day and Friday via Sudbury and

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#### Why It Continues.

The decision to continue the Red Cross as a peace-time organization was not reached by a gathering of the case of Mrs. Miner. Red Cross enthusiasts, but by a body | That's the truth of the matter. If you of statesmen who were convinced of its value as an agency to assist in the women have, you ought to try this med-

The Ontario Government intends to open a cannery at Guelph reformatory. Some 500 or 600 men are "canned" there already.-Brantford

pound Often Does That. - Read Mrs. Miner's Testimony



backache and had no relief from his medicine. One day a neighbor told me about your Vegetable Compound and I took it. It helped me so much that I wish to advise all women to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for fe-

backache. It is a great help in carrying a child, as I have noticed a difference when I didn't take it. I thank you for this medicine and if I ever come to this point again I do not want to be without the Vegetable Compound. I give you permission to publish this letter so that all women can take my advice."-Mrs. FRED MINER, Box 102, Churubusco, N. Y.

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"My wife-she sits through them all."-Judge.

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