

HOW CANADA WELCOMES HER RETURNING SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Citizens of St. John, New Brunswick, Offer in Canada's Name A Royal Greeting to Canada's Heroes, and Give the Brides From Overseas a Cordial Welcome to the Land of Their Adoption.

In the sunshine of peace, our soldiers return to their native land, the dark cloud of warfare lifted—the cloud under which they left our shores and embarked on the great adventure—but the boys do not come back, they are gone forever. In their place come men, men who have proven their manhood, whose spurs, spiritual and military, have been worn in desperate conflict. Many who left in a state of single unbelief, married the first year of the war, and are returning with wives and children; others are bringing their brides, who make the adventure into matrimony and Canada on the same trip. This return in dual or triple form, calls for a reception differing from that accorded to mere man accustomed to the rigors of camp life, but the great-hearted men and women of St. John, New Brunswick, know just how to express the feeling of Canada for those who return and for those who are new members of our large family.

St. John, Not St. Peter, at the Door. By virtue of the geographical location of St. John, its citizens have become Canada's official welcome to our returned soldiers, and right royally as the old city, down by the sea, open wide its doors and extend the warm hand of welcome, and to the homesick men who have been yearning for a glimpse of their native land through years of the horrors of war, this seems indeed the very Gate of Heaven. To some of the wives coming from overseas, the prospect was not one of unalloyed bliss, for mischievous pens and tongues had set a mental veil in motion, that made the English, Scotch and Irish brides fear that some of the Canadian homes might have preferred Canadian brides for their sons. However, their reception by the women and the men of St. John banished all such fears. As one of the reception committee, "We were told in England that Canadian women would greet us with bad eggs, but instead we have been treated like royalty." Canada recognizes in these young women from the British Isles, these whose kindness in hours of loneliness has won the hearts of our boys, the kind of women who, with few exceptions, are the type of citizens of whom Canada will be justly proud.

The soldiers' reception committee of men and women has done valiant service ever since the beginning of the war, in meeting boats and trains, early and late, and distributing comforts. With the prospect of thousands of women and children coming in addition to the soldiers, when the Armistice was declared, it was felt that only by thorough organization could the situation be met. A Citizens' Welcome Committee was formed of national and organized societies, such as the Young Women's Christian Association, The Red Cross, the L.O.E., the W.C.T.U., Protestants of all denominations, and Roman Catholic Societies, all working together harmoniously, subdividing the work in such a manner that every detail that may add to the comfort of guests is attended to. Having secured permission from the Dominion Government, the Dominion Council of the Y.W.C.A. extended the work of its Travellers' Aid Department to meet this emergency, by placing two of their national workers, Miss Perry and Miss Woods, in charge of a reception and rest room for those returning, especially the women and children.

A Haven of Rest. A spacious room in the Immigration Building was prepared by the military authorities. The Y.W.C.A. Hostess Houses of Ontario shipped their no longer needed furniture, and with the splendid local assistance, the rooms were arranged. Bright, airy and warm, they are a perfect haven of rest to the weary women and children, who on one occasion numbered nine hundred, over three hundred being children. Though the accommodation was supposed to be adequate for four hundred, the larger party was satisfactorily handled.

One side of the long room has a row of dainty white cots, which soon are filled with travel-worn occupants. Opening off this large reception room is a smaller room, filled with beds for those who are ill, and of this, a

nursery and lavatory, where unlimited supplies of hot and cold water, towels and soap, turn out "new women and babies for old." Adjoining this is the Red Cross Dispensary, with a trained nurse in charge, for supplies and medicines and everything a baby, sick or well, could possibly want, are given out.

Back of this is the kitchen, and connecting with the reception room is a serving-table, where, under the direction of one of the Y.W.C.A. workers, the local V.A.D.'s serve hot drinks, sandwiches and cakes.

When the boat docks the only ones allowed to go on board are Miss Perry, Y.W.C.A., and Mrs. Lawrence, the Red Cross Secretary.

Off the boat, up the long stairs, and "Welcome Home" says the great streamer at the head. Along through the Immigration offices all must pass, and many have a long wait. The welcome is repeated by voice and hand, a class of the ladies of the Reception Committee, who keep the babies and the bundles, so that mother can attend to her papers with a free hand and a free mind. This done, all move on to the Rest Room, which, with its dainty curtains, easy chairs, bright chintz cushions, piano, reading and writing tables, is most inviting to the sea-sick travellers. Outside the Rest Room are the Y.M.C.A., the Salvation Army, and the Knights of Columbus booths, which cater to the needs, internal and external, of the soldier. The Military Information Bureau and the C.P.R. offices do a land office business in answering questions, and the Patriotic Fund both aids the soldier or his dependent financially, if necessary.

Rested and refreshed, the next step in the long journey must be arranged. The local assistants and the Y.W.C.A. secretaries are everywhere, ascertaining destinations, seeing that babies, bundles, bags and boxes are collected, for the first train to pull out. The Red Cross superintendent sees that a nurse, with full equipment of supplies, and loads of extra blankets, is on every train. This is one of the greatest of comforts to those with small children. This goes on all day, welcoming the coming, and spending the departing guest, until the last train load disappears, possibly at eight or nine o'clock at night, if, as sometimes happens, several thousands arrive the same day.

A Long Chain of Welcome. This fine piece of National Service, warmly welcoming our own men and those whom they bring with them, does not begin or end here. Its source was in the sending to England as soon as hostilities ceased, of the Y.W.C.A. National Immigration Secretary, Mrs. Burrington-Jones, who went to the authorities to secure space in which to open a Bureau for the information of soldiers' dependents coming over. After many difficulties and delays this was accomplished, and Mrs. Burrington-Jones' assistance was of the greatest value to the women. "The God-mother," as they appreciatively called her, succeeded in placing upon each boat bringing a number of women and children, a Ship Secretary, who looks after their needs in every possible way, aiding the sick, cheering the well, carrying babies, and when the time and mal de mer permit, giving talks on conditions in different parts of Canada, that newcomers may not be utterly at sea when they land. Motherless children coming with their fathers are her special charge, until placed with friends, but rather the follow-up work of the port secretary—consists in writing to the Y.W.C.A. secretaries in each town or city to which the newcomers go, and asking that they locate them as soon as possible, call upon them, put them in touch with a Church of their denomination, and do all possible to make this new land a home land to these welcome members of the nation's family. Letters of appreciation from East and West pay tribute to this great interest taken by the Canadian women. This long chain of welcome from England to the Pacific demonstrates, in magnified form, the work that has been carried on for years by the Y.W.C.A. Immigration and Travellers' Aid Departments. Its scope and fitness are such as appeal

to the imagination of many who cannot be there in person, but who can, by financial support, strengthen the hands of the workers. The coming big drive of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. gives to all an opportunity of assistance in this great work.

If we truly value the sacrifice of our men in the tragic days just past, if we realize the difficulty of those returning to the different struggle of the wage-earning civilian, and if we realize even dimly the tremendous crisis we are facing, let us, as loyal Canadian men and women, leave nothing undone to continue individually this magnificent work in every community to which our men and women come, that we may make them one with us for a greater and nobler Canada.

2,000,000 TONS ADDED TO NAVY

12 New Types of Submarines, 300 Destroyers, and 100 Mine-Sweepers.

A despatch from London says:—More than two million tons of shipping were added to the British navy during the war at a cost of between £250,000,000 and £300,000,000, according to a statement by Sir E. H. W. Tennyson-D'Eyncourt, Director of Naval Construction at the Admiralty.

After the battle of the Falkland Islands, the statement says, the design of the Renown and Repulse was altered from battleships to battle cruisers, the value of battle cruisers having become apparent. The famous "Hush" ships—the Courageous, Glorious and Furious—were designed to wipe out German light cruisers and raiders. They carried fifteen-inch guns and steamed 32 knots an hour. During the war three hundred destroyers, 100 mine-sweepers and twelve new types of submarines were added to the British navy.

WILL KEEP FLYER AFLOAT 8 DAYS

Life-Saving Suits Tested by Trans-Atlantic Navigators at St. John's, Nfld.

A despatch from St. John's, Nfld., says:—Harry G. Hawker and Lieutenant McKenzie Grieve, his navigator on the impending airplane flight across the Atlantic, have tested the life-saving suits they will wear during the big hop. The suits are those developed by the American navy with airbags on the chest and on the back between the shoulder blades. The feet have leaden soles and the fabric is waterproofed in such a way that they are guaranteed to keep a man afloat for eight days. The only place they can admit water is at the neck and wrists when not adjusted snugly. The test was made in a small lake near the airbase at Mount Pearl, and was a lark for Hawker and Grieve. Though the ice was forming on the water and the air was filled with snow from the edges of what is said to be the winter's worst storm, which raged farther inland, the two men splashed about like kids trying to duck each other and generally horse-playing. They even tried to shoot what have been nicknamed the "rapids," a tumultuous little stream that forms the outlet of the lake. The suits worked very well, though some water got in the neck and sleeves and the men found that their feet kept on the surface. This was the result of the soles not being heavily enough weighted, and can easily be remedied. When the actual start is made on the flight, both Hawker and Grieve will wear the only precautions against drowning the voyagers will take. The assembling of the plane has been completed. It was said by members of the party that the test flights now await favorable weather only. This is not yet in sight, and the field is still in bad shape. The water stands to a depth of six inches at some places, while on others it has been drying out quite satisfactorily.

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Markets of the World

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, April 15.—Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.24½; No. 2 Northern, \$2.21½; No. 3 Northern, \$2.17½; No. 4 wheat, \$2.11½, in store Fort William.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 71½¢; No. 3 C.W., 68½¢; extra No. 2 feed, 68½¢; No. 1 feed, 68½¢; No. 2 feed, 63½¢, in store Fort William.

Manitoba barley—No. 3 C.W., \$1.03½; No. 4 C.W., 98½¢; rejected, 91½¢; feed, 91½¢, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, \$1.80; No. 4 yellow, \$1.77, track Toronto, prompt shipment.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 70 to 72¢; No. 3 white, 68 to 70¢, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 1 winter, per car lot, \$2.14 to \$2.20; No. 2 do, \$2.11 to \$2.19; No. 3 do, \$2.07 to \$2.15 f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights outside.

Ontario barley—No. 1 Spring, \$2.09 to \$2.17; No. 2 do, \$2.06 to \$2.14; No. 3 do, \$2.02 to \$2.10 f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights.

Barley—Malt, 98 to 101, nominal.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 95¢, nominal.

Wheat—No. 2, \$1.70 to \$1.80, nominal, according to 40 to 45¢, Creamery.

Barley—Malt, 98 to 101, nominal.

Ontario flour—Government standard, \$10.75 to \$11.10, nominal.

Ontario flour—Government standard, \$9.65 to \$9.75 in bags, Toronto and Montreal, prompt shipment in bulk.

Millfeed—Car lots delivered, Montreal freights, bags included, Bran, \$42 to \$48 per ton; shorts, \$44 to \$48 per ton; good feed flour, \$2.70 to \$3. Hay—No. 1, \$24 to \$26 per ton; mixed, \$22 to \$23 per ton, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, \$10 to \$11 per ton.

CONTRY PRODUCE—WHOLESALE.

Butter—Dairy, tubs and rolls, 36 to 38¢; printing, 40 to 45¢. Creamery, fresh made prints, 56 to 58¢.

Eggs—New laid, 41 to 43¢.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 26 to 34¢; roosters, 25¢; fowl, 28 to 33¢; ducks, 32¢; turkeys, 45¢; squabs, doz., \$6.

Live poultry—Roosters, 22¢; fowl, 28 to 33¢; ducks, lb., 35¢; turkeys, 30¢; chickens, 27¢.

Eggs—New laid, 46 to 47¢; new laid in cartons, 48 to 49¢.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, 35 to 40¢; roosters, 28 to 30¢; fowl, 37 to 38¢; turkeys, 45 to 50¢; ducks, 35 to 38¢; squabs, doz., \$7; geese, 28 to 30¢.

Potatoes—Ontario, f.o.b. track Toronto, car lots, \$1.20 to \$1.25.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, \$3.75 to \$4; primes, \$2.50 to \$3; imported hand-picked, Burma or India, \$3.25; Lima, 14¢.

Honey—Extracted, clover, 5-lb. tins, 25 to 26¢ lb.; 10-lb. tins, 24½ to 25¢; 60-lb. tins, 19 to 20¢. Comb, 15-oz., \$4.50 to \$5; doz., 12-oz., \$3.50 to \$4.

Maple products—Syrup, per wine gallon, \$1.85; per imperial gallon, \$2.30; per 5 gallons, \$2.20; sugar, lb., 27 to 28¢.

PROVISIONS—WHOLESALE.

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 37 to 39¢; do, heavy, 33 to 34¢; cooked, 50 to 52¢; rolls, 31 to 32¢; breakfast bacon, 41 to 45¢; backs, plain, 45 to 46¢; boneless, 50 to 52¢.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 28 to 29¢; clear bellies, 27 to 28¢.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 29 to 29½¢; tubs, 29½ to 30¢; pails, 29½ to 30½¢; prints, 30½ to 31¢. Compound tierces 25½ to 25¾¢ tubs, 25½¢ to 26¼¢; pails, 26 to 26½¢; prints, 27¼ to 27½¢.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, April 15.—Oats—Extra No. 1 feed, 83¢. Flour—Spring wheat standard grade, \$11 to \$11.10. Rolled oats—Barns, 90 lbs., \$3.60 to \$3.75. Bran, \$46 to \$47. Shorts, \$47 to \$48. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$26.50 to \$27. Cheese—Finest easterns, 24 to 25¢. Butter—Choice creamery, 62 to 62½¢. Eggs—Fresh, 47 to 48¢. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, \$1.30 to \$1.50. Dressed hogs—Abattoir killed, \$27.50 to \$28. Lard—Pure, wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 30½ to 31¢.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, April 15.—Good heavy steers, \$14.50 to \$16.50; choice butcher steers, \$13.25 to \$14; butchers' cattle, choice, \$13.50 to \$14; do, good, \$12.75 to \$13; do, medium, \$11.50 to \$12; do, common, \$10.50 to \$11; bulls, choice, \$11.50 to \$12.50; do, medium

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AN EASTER PARTY

All children adore an Easter party and at this season a delightful affair may be planned for the small people. The invitations are written on pretty Easter cards. If the party is to be held on a school day, arrange to have the children come directly from school; if it is to be the Saturday before or the Saturday after Easter, the party can "begin" at three, which is still better.

The entertainment should be carefully planned and some older person should be in charge to see that everything moves smoothly.

Some of the small guests are likely to be shy at first so it is best to begin with a quiet game. Before they arrive, cut a number of picture post-cards in not too many pieces—the kind having bunnies, chickens and eggs. Give each child the pieces of one card and allow fifteen minutes to fit the pieces together.

Next, suggest an egg hunt. If the weather is favorable this can be held out-of-doors. Real eggs, boiled and colored, can be used and by way of variety a few china nest eggs and some candy eggs. If held in the house it is better to use the small candy eggs. Conceal them in all manner of places and give each child a paper bag in which to collect them.

The Easter bunny stunt is not new but is great fun for children and even for older people.

Draw on a sheet or large piece of white cloth a bunny standing on its hind legs and holding up its paws as though it were carrying an egg. Stretch the sheet on the wall or door where it can be tacked firmly in place. Cut eggs from colored paper and in each egg stick a pin. Blindfold each child in turn, give him an egg, start him in the right direction and tell him to pin the egg in Bunny's paws. The child who pins his egg the nearest in position may be given an Easter bunny and each of the others a small one.

Then comes supper. If one of the attractive Easter sets of paper table cover and napkins decorated with bunnies cannot be procured, very pretty ones can be arranged from crepe paper.

A centerpiece is made by filling a low, round glass dish with eggs, vines and moss, prettily arranged. Round the dish place a row of tiny yellow chicks. Tie a narrow yellow ribbon around each chick's head. This ribbon leads to each plate and ends with another chick. To each chick's neck is tied a card with the guest's name.

Serve stuffed eggs in a nest of lettuce and egg-shaped sandwiches of brown and white bread. Lemonade may be served—though milk is better. If straws are provided for the guests they will be delighted and it will not seem like "just milk."

Next, serve egg-shaped ice-cream and cookies cut with a "rabbit" cutter, with currants for eyes.

As the guests leave the table, give each a numbered card. On the living room table stands the "Easter basket." This contains a nest made from yellow paper cut in very narrow strips. In the nest are a number of small boxes and to each box is attached a narrow yellow ribbon. At the end of the ribbon is attached a card bearing a number corresponding with the number of their cards. Each one in turn gives the box a quick pull and there is a box of candy eggs "to take home."

And now the hostess gathers the children round her and tells them the legend of the Easter rabbit. As a great favor the goddess of spring gave it four legs. In remembrance of its former life as a bird when the spring or Easter season comes it lays eggs of gorgeous colors. Then in a few simple words, the children are told of the egg being a symbol of the resurrection and that is why we use it at Easter time when we are thinking of the life everlasting and all things made new. This, followed by the singing of a few familiar songs, will have a quieting influence and the children will go to their homes with happy memories of a delightful Easter party.

THE ANCIENT OUTLAW

I never see a threatening trespass sign But over me there comes a longing great, Defy the peddled gate!

I never see an orchard bending low With luscious fruit, but I look through the fence And wonder if that farmer keeps a dog. Then search for self-defence.

I never see the youngsters in the sun, In Spring's first days, at the old marble game, But I say, "Musta's play for keeps!" and chuckling know They'll do it just the same.

And when I see a lonely vacant house, With wide inviting glare of window pane, My fingers twitch in the old wicked way, And I'm a boy again!

But when my youngsters clamor for old tales Of what their daddy did when he was young, I tell them it's too long ago and that Their bed-time hour has rung.

THE VALUE OF GEMS

Gems are Occasional Yellow or Green

The Edwardian diamond bracelet found in the South Sea Islands is worth an enormous sum. The reason is that it is a beautiful blue stone. The Hope Diamond, a blue stone, weighs yet has changed but of all the South Sea Jasperstones is the finest blue-white diamonds were found. It was only in India stones were found.

South African diamonds are yellowish or "off-stones" are far less white diamonds are often found quite blue.

Kimberley yields those found at Dutoit yellow, while the known for its color. The Premier of 3 gives large and vests of a deep orange are so flawless that color they often fetch a fortune.

Borneo yields the range of colored diamonds where in the world few such stones are found. The Borneo diamonds, are extremely rare. There is no example large red diamond, the rarest color of all stony valuable. But a black sort, are very cannot be made into jewelry can be used for optical purposes.

The Secret of the Matter

I remember, says Methodist Times, the pressed in a certain the minister's wife dressed. They were afford it. On like a duchess once the exact amount of clothes. It was more secret was "few than as I can afford the and a central my whole wardrobe thing tones." The "scales, with its rather faded ribbon, her. "I won't look like the said.

The Business

American are good "lick creation" in which they turn the moment to business have no money and the. Here is an apt the agency column Times, which shows a Frenchman has a list of abilities of money-men war has left in its train.

Ypres—The Belgians having decided to enter Ypres intact, I wish to situated near the Hooge Road, suitable full information write care.

Giant Russian college of Agriculture, opened 1909 and spent much money to the way, was in every way an corn for making sil Bracken is recognized as sunflower for drier areas of Western is well known.