

YEAR 85, NO. 201

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1918

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A GIVING OR A GETTING WAR

By William T. Ellis.

The International Sunday School Lesson For Sept. 1st is "Christian Giving."—Luke 6:30-38:21:1-4.

Recently there befell an incident in a street car running from Philadelphia to the neighborhood of the munition plants on the Delaware river that portrays two attitudes concerning the war.

Crass, but real, the incident suggests the line of division that the war has drawn between two major classes of people.

Stigma deep and lasting, is attached to all who construe this greatest of mankind's tragedies as an occasion for personal advantage.

factors for witnessing the crucifixion of Jesus. Unless I am very much mistaken, these profiteers are not incurring personal odium themselves, but they are also selling their sons and daughters to the shame of the years.

The Glory of the Trenches. We are testing our time by the T-square of the Cross. The glory of our land is that our best are meeting the divine measure.

Soldiers show this spirit. They are not reluctant slaves to a system, dragged unwillingly into the war.

Nobody should pity our men in the trenches; they are to be envied. They have drawn the sting from life and won to the grandeur of vicarious existence.

They alone live Who greatly love And greatly give.

Millionaire Paupers. In contrast with those royal givers, the soldiers, and the like-minded folk at home who are their stay and support, we behold the getters, the men who have money, but no spirit.

These jaded men with tired eyes and worried lines, who have plenty of servants and sycophants, but few friends, are a pitiable spectacle.

That man may last, but never lives, Who much receives, but never gives; Whom none can love, whom none can thank.

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In contrast to these dwarfed spirits consider that splendid Adventurer who was lavish with his life to the limit of the hill-top and its cross; and who, although he made his citizenship gift when still a young man, is the world's most conspicuous success.

What the "Drives" Uncover. War loan and Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. "drives" have uncovered many depressing instances of men and women who are sordidly self-centred and small-concepted.

These "drives" have burst the bonds and barriers of human hearts. Myriads have come for the first time, by way of experience, to an understanding of the mind of Christ.

give; but some have even gone into debt in order to do so.

"Give as you would if an angel Awaited your gift at the door; Give as you would if to-morrow Found you where waiting was o'er; Give as you would to the Master; If you met His searching look; Give as you would of your substance If His hand your offering took."

The Paradox of Plenty. Great Britain has not for centuries been so fat in soul as she has grown during war's lean days of rationing.

"Whom is that for?" she asked her guide. "For your gardener." "But he lives in the tiniest cottage on earth, with barely room enough for his family."

"The answer was full of meaning: 'The Master Builder is doing his best with the material that is being sent up.'"

Vologda Is New Capital

VOLOGDA, the city to which the Allied diplomatic corps fled—or at least discreetly withdrew—from Petrograd, is unhonored and unsung.

The town was founded in 1147 as a colony of Novgorod and by 1273 it had attained sufficient wealth and importance to make it worth the while of the Prince of Tver to plunder it, aided by Tartars with whom he was in alliance.

Moscow took notice of Vologda a little later and claimed it. A struggle ensued, lasting for several decades, the Muscovites intriguing with the poorer population of Vologda against the wealthy Novgorodian merchant class, and four times the trouble broke out in open warfare.

By air line it is less than 300 miles east by a little south of Petrograd, but there isn't any air line.

It is on the Vologda river, above the confluence with the Sukhona. In 1897 the population was 37,822 and probably is about the same now.

Four per cent. of the land in the government of Vologda, of which the city is the capital, is under cultivation; the rest is dense forest.

Peter the Great lived there at one time, and his house (reputed) still is pointed out to the occasional tourist.

There was a time when Vologda was on the highroad from Siberia to Moscow and was the principal depot along the weary route.

Now flax, linseed, oats, hemp, butter and eggs are gathered from the province and forwarded from Vologda, which has also distilleries—or did until the business was proscribed; perhaps the Bolsheviks have restored them—tanneries, oil, soap and candle factories and fur-dressing works.

"It is a mean looking place," says John Murray, who with Baedeker seem to be the only persons who have written of it. "There is nothing to say, even of its churches."

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