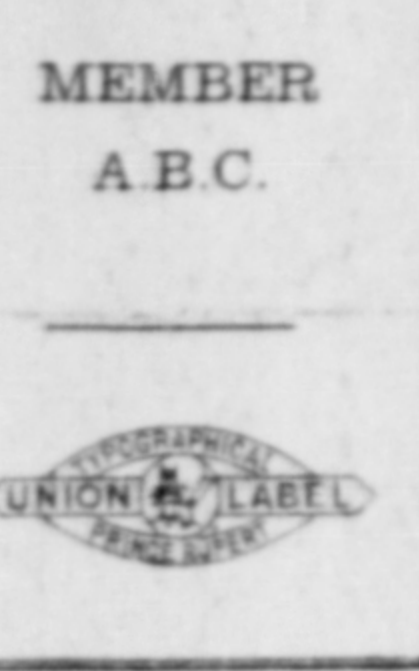


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A Great Army . . .

If any further indication is needed of the feeling in Britain that the war against Germany is nearing its victorious climax it comes in the announcement that the Home Guard is being disbanded. It means that Germany is now regarded as a spent force able henceforth only to conduct a gesture of defence.

The enthusiasm and energy of Britain's civilian army, which was conceived on war's outbreak, stood valiantly by through the dark days when invasion by the mighty Hun armies was a menacingly immediate threat and became developed into a fierce fighting force which, if necessary, would have given a mighty good account of itself had it been ever necessary to fight on beaches, fields or streets, was one of the marvels of this war. A nation aroused and ready to fight for its life to the last old man and young boy—yes women and girls too—was exemplified in that noble army which for years stood an even greater brunt of the war's arduosities than the enlisted fighting men themselves. The Home Guard may have never actually fought but the fact of its existence and the spirit of its being may well go on the record as having been one of the real factors in winning the war. The Home Guards of Britain are entitled to all honor and the respite they now get is richly due them.

It would be quite in line with Nazi strategy to call "ouch" now to get a breathing spell for the next round — say twenty years hence.

If it were not for propaganda, how much easier it would be to make up our minds.

The Boys Want Unity Too . . .

Possibly it may be of interest and example to us at home to hear what the boys who are doing the fighting overseas are thinking about politics. At our editorial desk here, we turned to "The Maple Leaf," Canadian Army publication in Brussels, and here is an editorial we found:

"Political developments in Canada have been the subject of discussion and speculation by Canadians everywhere during recent weeks. Although the issues involved may be of particular interest to the Canadian Army, we must not take our eye off the ball. Our job at present overseas is to get on with fighting the war. Not that Canadian soldiers shouldn't take an interest in the affairs of their country. To the contrary. But the fact remains that if we are to operate as an efficient fighting team there can be no room for political issues within our ranks.

"There is room here for timely discussion, but not for political opinions. "That Canadian soldiers overseas think about the affairs of their country is only too evident in letters received by The Maple Leaf. It is a most healthy sign and The Maple Leaf hopes this same interest will continue when we are back again on civvy street. Regardless of religious or political beliefs or of province, Canadian formations now overseas have shown the finest example of unity in the history of our country. The purpose of their unity has been to beat the German . . . Politics will have to wait."

Post-war Spending . . .

No one really knows whether individuals and business concerns will be willing to spend their enormous purchasing power freely after the war. It is conceived that the swift drop in government buying will leave people too frightened and dazed to spend their money. But if this happens, man will be behaving in a new way. Never before have millions of people with a huge excess of liquid assets been unwilling to use their purchasing power freely to feed and clothe themselves and to buy shelter, education, travel and amusement, provided goods could be had at more or less customary prices.

THIS AND THAT



"Here we are, dear! You go in alone. I want your gift to be a surprise to me!"

FEDERAL MEASURES

(Continued from Page 1)

uled to begin early in 1945, in the case of death will be made to next-of-kin who were in receipt of dependents allowances of who were dependent upon a man before he was killed.

During the year the government took steps to increase the clothing allowance to discharged personnel first from \$35 to \$65 and then to \$100. Those discharged were allowed to keep one uniform.

They were entitled to a rehabilitation grant of one month's pay and allowances, to reinstatement in their peacetime job, to out-of-work benefits while awaiting employment, to allowances while taking vocational or university training, to allowances while awaiting returns from a business or crop, and to a loan for settlement on a farm under provisions of the veterans land act.

Pension Revision

Pensions and disability regulations were revised and rehabilitation centres were set up for personnel who felt they were not fit to step out of uniform into civilian life immediately.

Veterans were assured preference in examinations for civil service jobs and steps were taken to return to Canada at the government's expense the dependents of Canadians who married while overseas.

The former pensions and health department was divided into two departments. A department of veterans affairs was set up to deal only with the affairs of ex-servicemen. Alongside it was set up a department of National Health and Social Welfare to handle legislation that would affect all Canadians in the post-war years.

The health and Welfare department will handle the family allowances bill. The allowances will be payable after July 1, 1945, in respect of every child in Canada—it is estimated there are 1,500,000 children under 16. However, only 750,000 would benefit as the allowances paid to families in the higher in-

come brackets will be drained back through income tax.

Allowances will be paid on a scale of \$5 a month for a child less than six years old; \$6 a month for a child six or more but less than 10; \$7 a month for a child 10 or more but less than 13, and \$8 a month for a child 13 or more but less than 16. The scale will be reduced for the fifth and subsequent children in families of more than four.

In another step to improve living conditions, the government guaranteed the loaning of \$285,000,000 to prospective home owners, to slum clearance projects, to those wishing to repair their existing homes and to those who agreed to build low rental houses.

Measures aimed at keeping farm and fish prices at a steady level and at encouraging export trade also were approved by parliament.

No definite steps were taken to introduce National health insurance. Study of a draft insurance bill has been completed by a house of commons committee on social security, but further action was postponed until a dominion-provincial conference is held to iron out financial arrangements.

LOG SCALE HOLDING UP

Falling Off of Production On Islands Not Shown Yet in Official Figures

Curtailment in Sitka Spruce logging operations on the Queen Charlotte Islands now that the wartime aircraft industry is in a good state of supply has not yet made itself apparent as far as the log scale figures of Prince Rupert district are concerned.

During this November the log scale in the district was 31,779,914 board feet as compared with 26,456,723 board feet in the same month last year. The scale for 1944 to date is 253,900,416 board feet in comparison with 222,120,502 board feet in the first eleven months of last year.

The production of poles and piling in the interior this year also maintains an increase over 1943, the aggregate for the first eleven months of the current year being 1,645,117 lineal feet in comparison with 1,422,032 lineal feet.

The detail of the log scale for this November was as follows, figures for 1943 being also shown for comparison:

	Nov. 1944	Nov. 1943
Board Feet	Board Feet	Board Feet
Fir	34,097	703,897
Cedar	3,088,826	2,396,824
Spruce	29,600,190	13,446,437
Hemlock	7,873,483	8,742,606
Jackpine	115,295	191,032
Balsam	68,023	975,927

Totals. 31,779,914 26,456,723

Forest Products

The pole and piling production this November, amounting to 223,985 lineal feet, consisted of 207,891 feet cedar, 9,144 feet hemlock and 6,050 feet miscellaneous. Last year in November the total was 435,707 lineal feet.

Ties this November numbered 12,424 pieces—2,412 hemlock and 10,012 jackpine—compared with 6,195 last November. The cordwood count this November was 549 cords as against 808.

RICHMOND, Surrey, Eng., Dec. 4.—Month-old Ann Champion must have the most complete "living" family tree of anyone in Britain. She has a mother and father, grandmother and grandfather, great grandmother and great-great-grandmother, the latter aged 86.

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- Men's Silk Scarfs**—All kinds to choose—Special \$1.00 to \$1
- Men's Dress and Work Shoes**—Good assortment—all sizes and styles—Real values—\$4.00 to \$9.00
- Men's Leather Slippers**—All sizes—Black and brown—Special \$2.75 to \$3.50
- Men's Sweaters**—All-wool and cotton and wool—buttons and zipper All sizes—Special \$1.95 to \$6
- Men's Fine Dress Gloves**—Lined & unlined—all sizes—Special \$1.95 to \$2
- Men's Leather Belts**—All sizes—Special 75c to \$1
- Men's Rain Coats**—All sizes—Special, now \$6
- Men's Gabardine Coats**—Fully lined—all sizes—Special, now \$14
- Men's Fine Wool Worsted Suits**—Blue and brown stripe—all sizes—Special \$32
- Men's Winter Overcoats**—Good selection—all-wool; some are semi-ready made good sizes—Real Bargain \$22.50 to \$35
- Men's Coveralls**—Full cut—all sizes—Now, Suit \$3
- Men's Work Shirts**—Big assortment—Prices \$1.45 to \$3

GIFTS FOR THE LADIES . . .

- Ladies' Silk Hose**—Sub-standards—all sizes—Special, pair
- Ladies' Bath Robes**—Good weight, nicely trimmed—all sizes \$6

GIFTS FOR THE BOYS . . .

- Boys' Sweaters**—All-wool, also cotton mixture—all sizes 65c to \$2
- Boys' Pants**—Well made with cuffs and belt loops—all sizes—Pair \$2.25 to \$3
- Boys' Shoes**—All leather—sizes 11 to 4½ \$3.50 to \$4
- Boys' Raincoats**—All sizes—will keep dry \$3
- Boys' All-Wool Overcoats**—Some full-lined—Real value—Now \$11
- Young Men's Sport Coats**—All-wool—latest styles—Reg. \$25—Now \$20

GIFTS FOR THE HOME . . .

- All-Wool Blankets**—Grey only—Regular \$6.75—Now \$5
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