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**MAIL" ADDS
BRING RESULTS**

FOUR BRITISH MEDALS

There are four military decorations to be won in the war. The greatest of these is the Victoria Cross, a bronze Maltese cross, 1½ inches in diameter; in the centre is the royal cross and below in scroll "for Valor." It was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1856 and is open to Officers and men alike. It is cast from Russian cannon captured at Sebastopol, and its material value is estimated at nine cents, but those who are given it rank as "the bravest of the brave." Until the present war but 522 crosses had been given—111 for the Crimea war, 182 for the Indian mutiny, 78 for the Boer war and the rest among 37 other wars.

The Distinguished Service Order was instituted by Queen Victoria in 1886, its purpose giving the "recognition of special services of commissioned officers in the army and navy." The order allows its members to bear the letters "D.S.O." after their names. The badge is a gold cross enamelled white, one side bearing a heraldic crown surrounded by a wreath of laurels. It is worn by a red ribbon edged blue.

The Military Cross is of silver. It is 1½ inches square, and the bar is 1½ inches wide. The ribbon is 1½ inches wide by 1½ inches high, of three equal stripes, the centre dark purple and the others white. From the top of the ribbon to the bottom of the cross is 3 11-16 inches. The cross bears in the centre the letters "G.R.I." and on each arm of the cross is the Imperial Crown. The Royal Warrant says: "No person shall be eligible for this decoration unless he is a captain, a commissioned officer of a lower grade, or warrant officer in the British army or Indian or colonial military force, and the cross shall be awarded only to officers of the above ranks on the recommendation of the secretary of state for war. Foreign officers of an equivalent rank to those mentioned above, who have been associated in military operations with the British, Indian or Colonial forces shall be eligible for the honorary award of the cross. The Military Cross shall not confer any individual precedence, and shall not entitle the recipient to any addition after his name as part of his description or title."

The Distinguished Conduct Medal was very extensively awarded after the South African war. It is a decoration designed for warrant and non-commissioned officers and men.

KAISER GIVES STATUES

London "Daily Mail"—One—Norway Medal Specimen

It is not generally known that the statue of King William which stands outside Kensington Palace, London was presented to England by the Kaiser. It bears the following inscription: "William III. of Orange, King of Great Britain and Ireland, 1689-1702. Presented by William II., German Emperor and King of Prussia, to King Edward VII. for the British nation, 1907."

A very short time ago the Kaiser presented a colossal statue to Norway. This is a statue of Frithjof, the great Norse hero, who is the subject of an Icelandic saga assigned to the fourteenth century, and relating his adventures. It is designed to commemorate the Kaiser's twenty-fifth cruise to the Land of the Midnight Sun. The figure of the mythical hero is forty feet high—about ten feet shorter than the Kaiser thinks himself—and stands on a pedestal thirty feet high. A dozen men lunched in the chest cavity of this colossal statue whilst it was in course of erection.

Length of Life

According to Dr. V. C. Vaughn, of the University of Michigan, the average length of life in the United States is now 15 years greater than it was 35 years ago. The death rate from tuberculosis, he says, has decreased 54 per cent. since 1880. Doctor Vaughn regards crime as a disease, and asserts that the only way to eradicate it is to treat it as such and "disinfect" the breeding places.

"SO LONG" WRITES OF RAKE-OFF ON SHELL CONTRACT

A Cotton Mill With Some Influential Directors Landed the Order and Farmed It Out to a Foundry—How Temperance Laws Are Enforced.

St. John, Dec. 6.—I have been reading two Globes this evening—The Toronto Globe and The St. John Globe. In the former, prominence is given to an editorial statement in The Ottawa Journal, the editor of which, P. D. Ross, is a close friend and confident of Premier Borden, respecting excessive profits from shell contracts and as so much has been said in this city of ours with regard to the shell contract, which was given to the Cornwall & York Cotton Mills and later farmed out to James Flemming's Sons for a rake-off of five thousand dollars, I am sure greater interest will be shown in any official statement.

The Toronto Globe says:

"The Ottawa Journal, which has intimate relations with Sir Robert Borden, says that 'any person or corporation who can be shown to have taken unquestionably excessive profits, all things considered, in any war contract merits public contempt and should also be made to feel the force of public opinion not merely that way, but in his or its pocket. There should be

and we have no doubt there will be, government investigation of the matter and there should be retroactive legislation which will enable the government to confiscate any proven undue profits. Meanwhile, to a number of Liberal newspapers which harp on the subject and claim to have exact knowledge, we may point out that the avid commission exists for the purpose of investigating all war contracts and that any private individual can place charges before the commission and have them examined without cost to himself. There will probably be government investigation but if any of our newspaper friends are impatient or dubious and know what they say they do, they don't need to wait for government action.

A \$5,000 RAKE-OFF.

I make the statement that there was a rake-off of \$5,000. There was an order for twenty thousand shells given to a cotton factory—a cotton factory, mind you—which could not do it but turned it over to James Flemming's Sons

and took a rake-off of twenty-five cents per shell or nearly ten per cent. The transaction is common knowledge and the shells were sent out from the Flemming foundry with the imprint, "C. & Y" upon them, standing for Cornwall and York.

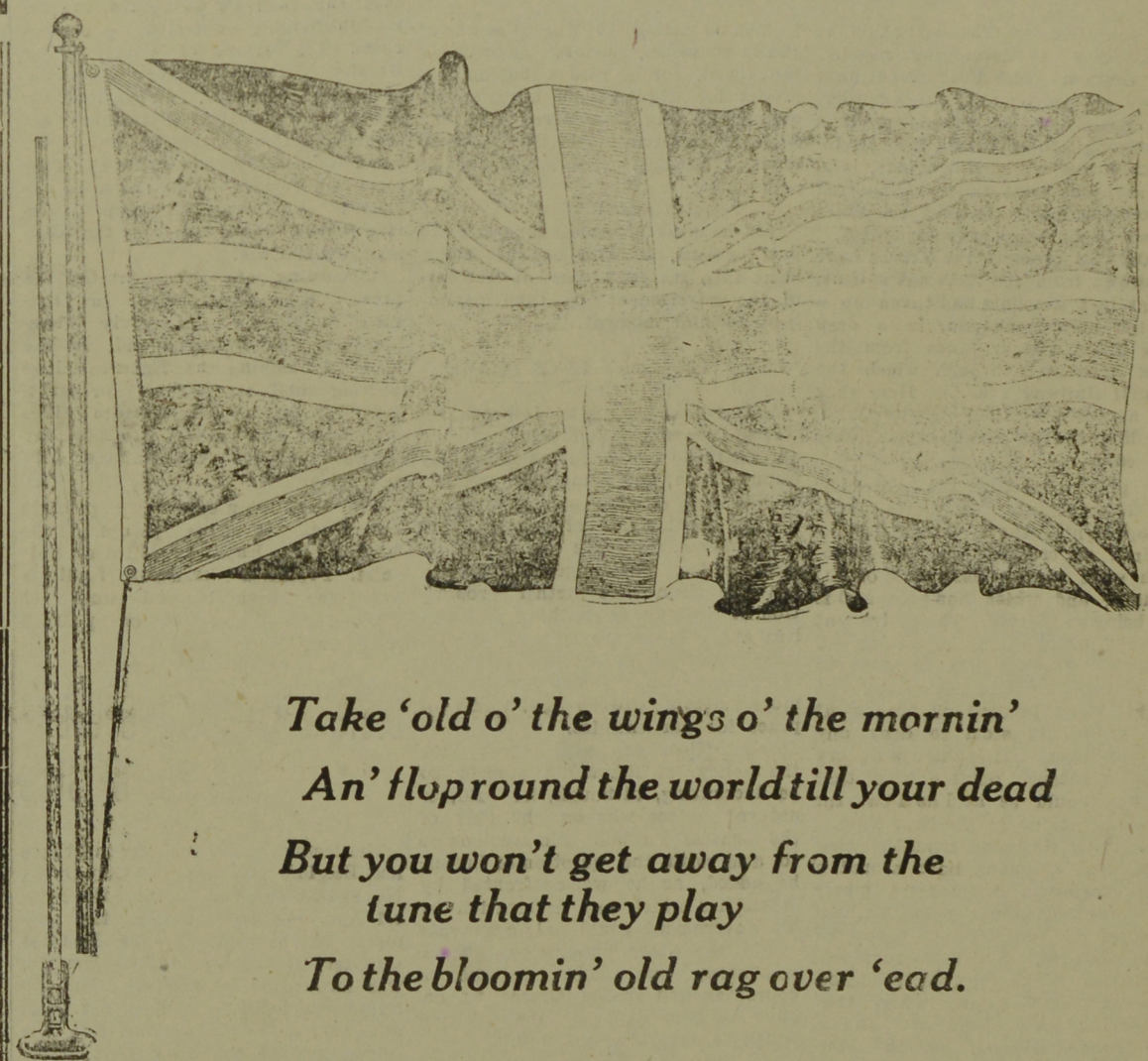
But how is it possible it may be asked, for A COTTON MILL to get an order for shells when such well known concerns as Flemming's and McAvities and others in the manufacturing of iron and steel had to go hunting hand in hand to make munitions which were needed so badly in France. Can it be explained by the fact that Senator W. H. Thorne and James F. Robertson, prominent Tories, are closely connected with the directorate or would the influence come from Joseph Lakely, president of the Board of Trade, who supported the opposition.

This war, said Lloyd George, will be won by the last dollar. Here are five thousand of these dollars which were "diverted from their proper purpose." Just consider the men, their standing in the community, the concern, one of the largest in the province—then the rake-off, five thousand dollars—a picayune profit—or plunder—what would you call it? Enough said—unless Sir Charles Davidson "puts in" and makes some pertinent inquiries.

A POLICE RAID.

A contributor to The St. John Globe who signs himself "Disgusted Citizen," finds fault with the secrecy that surrounded the police raid upon a small young men's club, where they played cards and drank rum. He says some one interfered with the chief of police and reduced the young men's bail, which was forfeited.

An unusual air of secrecy surrounds (Continued on page six.)



Take 'old o' the wings o' the mornin'
An' flopround the world till your dead
But you won't get away from the
tune that they play
To the bloomin' old rag over 'ead.

Had you a Union Jack to put on display when the news of the British Victory reached Fredericton?

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