

HOLD PROTEST PARADE FOR HIGHER GRATUITY

H. J. Flynn Hurls Another Bolt From the Queen's Park Band Stand.

Several thousand veterans again gathered in Queen's Park yesterday afternoon to hear President J. H. Flynn of the United Veterans' League and several other speakers, consequent upon the big parade of veterans, the dependents of the fallen and the sympathizers through the downtown streets as a silent protest against the inadequate measure of justice being done the returned men in the amount of gratuity given them. The parade had been planned as a direct result of the Government's tantamount refusal to reconsider the question of higher gratuities in any form or manner whatsoever.

Unity of action on the part of all returned men was the battle cry sounded by the speakers at the meeting. Mr. Flynn declared that the veterans would force the Government to give in to their demands. If the former continued in its present attitude of hostility the United Veterans' League would not rest till they had forced the issue before the country, to be decided by the will of the people expressed through a referendum. Referring to recent charges made against the treatment of soldiers at the **Kapuskasing** internment camp, he declared that the Canadian soldiers there had been treated worse than the German prisoners. The Government were laughing at the wounds of those who had suffered, and they could well afford to pay the \$2,000 if they wished to. He stated that the Government had been only too willing to grant increases to the wages of munition workers in Canada during the war when they had refused to work, while at the same time the best soldiers of Canada were having their brains blown out by Imperial troops in Boulogne for refusing to fire off this ammunition.

Comrade H. Capewell, who also spoke, declared that the Government were now beginning to wake up to the real sentiments of the veterans, and that they would consequently be afraid to defer much longer, the better treatment due the returned men.

"In the name of God, what have we to be thankful for?"

"We asked for justice, and we received jeers."

"We do not ask for payment for

services, but the right to live on at least an equal footing with slackers and foreigners."

"Government officials, biggest profiteers of all, give sympathy while clutching their pockets."

These are a few of the pointed sentences printed on the banners, which the women carried in the parade. Headed by the band of the 110th Irish Rifles, the silent protest parade marched through the down town streets. So long was it that when the leaders were entering Queen's Park, the end of the parade was at Queen and Yonge streets.

The demonstration was the most orderly of its kind in the history of Toronto and attracted a great deal of attention. Crowds of citizens lined the route of march and read with great interest the banners as they passed by. President Flynn of the

United Veterans' League was very pleased with the results of the parade, but was deeply incensed at the treatment afforded the event by the newspapers of the city. He claimed that his request for cars to be supplied for the cripples in the parade was not given any prominence and in some cases was not published at all. They had to procure the cars used by personal canvas in the Rosedale district.