

## THE PATRIOTIC FUND PLAN.

Announcement that the Dominion government will pay an allowance of \$20 per month to such families of volunteers of the Canadian expeditionary force as may have no sufficient means of support, should not be supposed to interfere with the necessity of the Patriotic Fund. The government does well, because a probability already exists that the Patriotic Fund, even though it swell to millions as it will, will be less than needed. The Patriotic Fund standard is to make up to each family a certain figure of support. As an illustration, a family of a wife and three children, not receiving aid from the husband's pay, was to be allowed \$45 a month—a dollar and a half a day. If part of the husband's pay were to go to the family—and in every case this was to be promoted—the Patriotic Fund was to allow less. If the government now is to give \$20 a month in necessary Canadian cases, which was not expected when the Patriotic Fund League started, the League will allow less in proportion to such cases.

But a heavy call upon the League funds will come from the families of British, French, Belgian, Russian and Servian reservists. None of these in their home armies get much pay: A Canadian soldier gets \$1.10 a day; a British soldier 35 cents; and others all much less. The reservists who have gone from Canada or are going can not, it will be seen do much for their families, nor are they to benefit by the government allowance; so that practically the entire charge of such families will be on the League's hands. There are likely to be several thousand of them, apart altogether from the cases of the families of Canadian volunteers.