

to increase production for his favored "home market," and the Canadian Treasury incidentally would lose the revenue formerly derived from the customs tax on imports. But to reimburse the national exchequer, and to tax the manufacturer for his increased production, a special levy of ten per cent. is proposed as an imposition on all the articles made in Canada which would be on the embargo list. In plain terms, such a special levy would mean that the embargo would cost the consuming public of Canada at least an additional ten per cent. upon the prices of those goods which it is proposed to prohibit from entering the country. For, precedent has taught the people of this country as well as every other protectionist land, that, war or no war, the manufacturer will pass along to the consumer every last portion of any tax which may be levied upon him.

The interesting point about the proposed embargo is that the idea seems to have been developed largely by the War Trade Board which was created last February under the auspices of Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce. The working out of the details of the embargo on imports seems to have been left largely to the War Trade Board which is dominated by the large industrial and financial interests of Toronto and Montreal. Its members are: Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce; Frank P. Jones, of Montreal; J. W. McConnell, of Montreal; J. H. Gundy, of Toronto; C. B. McNaught, of Toronto; W. S. Hodgins, of Toronto, secretary, and Joseph Gibbons, Toronto. With the exception of Mr. Gibbons, who represents organized labor, the War Trade Board is composed of manufacturers, bond dealers and stockbrokers. Furthermore, this board has its branch at Washington which is under the guidance of a smaller group, similar in character to the parent organization. One of the principal agents of the War Trade Board at Washington is R. J. Younge, general manager of the Export Association of Canada, and formerly secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. As a matter of fact, the War Trade Board as a whole, linked in characteristic fashion with government circles at Ottawa, bids fair to become a most effective agency in entrenching the eastern manufacturer still further behind the powerful bulwarks of protectionism.

On April 15, the United States government placed an embargo on certain imports, subject to the effect of special licenses. This affects Canada only to a very slight extent, and will not reduce our exports of natural produce to that country to any appreciable degree. Live animals which have been going to the United States from the West and other parts of the Dominion in such large numbers, will still be free to move in that direction. They will

shipped now under a license. Although the Canadian manufacturer has never exported his products to the United States in any marked value, nor has sought the neighboring market in any form, he does not miss the excuse just presented by the government at Washington, to attempt, in a spirit of retaliation, to secure additional protection at home.

The Educational Viewpoint

Hon. W. M. Martin, the Premier and Minister of Education of Saskatchewan, in a recent address before the annual convention of the School Teachers' Association of his province in Saskatoon, struck the very keynote of the educational problem in this young country when he said that the question of language in the schools should be approached purely from the viewpoint of education and not in a spirit of racial antipathy or antagonism. The Premier of Saskatchewan was right also when he said that English must be the language of instruction in our schools, that every child must be instructed in the English language, and that whatever legislation was necessary to bring about that condition of affairs would be enacted. Both Manitoba and Alberta have reached a very clear understanding with their varied population on this point, and Saskatchewan which of late has been the scene of some bitter discussion on the language issue is also reaching the only ground on which it is possible to stand fairly and squarely.

The insistence that English must be learned by every child does not bar the children of foreign parentage from continuing to cultivate the language of their fathers. The spirit of Canada does not

favor the oppression of any element within its borders: it would never aim at the extinction of the beloved mother tongue of any people. But just as there is a coin of the realm, there must also be in Canada that common language which shall make distinctive Canadians of us all, and that language must be English. This objective, moreover, may be accomplished easily, unconsciously, effectively through the establishment of the public school in the hands of properly trained and well qualified teachers. And this means more money for education. Alberta found the right way when its legislature recently passed an act fixing a minimum salary of \$70 per month for the school teacher. Education in the common schools of the West is a very much bigger thing than the language issue. It must conceive and develop strong, honest and useful citizenship. The teacher is the most needed worker in Canada to-day.

W. F. O'Connor, author of the famous O'Connor report which has helped to immortalize Sir Joseph Flavelle, has resigned from the position of commissioner of the cost of living. The exact reason for Mr. O'Connor's retirement has not been explained. But whatever happens to O'Connor and the cost of living, it must be admitted that the O'Connor report has done wonders in lowering the value of titles.

In the latest income tax returns in the United States, ten men confessed to an income of over five million dollars per year. Here are their names: John D. Rockefeller, H. C. Frick, Henry Ford, Charles M. Schwab, Andrew Carnegie, George F. Baker, William Rockefeller, Edward S. Harkness, J. Ogden Armour and Pierre S. DuPont. What a living monument to Protectionism and monopoly.

Those who feel devoutly patriotic after having purchased Victory War Bonds may be interested in the circular letter recently issued by an eastern bond firm, and headed "Free From Federal Income Tax." The letter urges the purchase of Victory Bonds which are free from Dominion taxation, and adds: "It is becoming more evident that the longer the war lasts, the heavier will be the burden as far as taxation is concerned." And this from "loyal" Toronto!

The shortage of labor in the West is most serious in its effect upon the farm women. If domestic help or more labor-saving devices are not soon found in some way for the over-worked and over-strained woman of the prairie, agriculture will be faced with the absolute necessity of finding a new basis of operation.



SCRAPPED!