

# The Weekly Chronicle

## AND CANADIAN DAIRYMAN

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### Imperial Federation--Economics

The economic aspect of Imperial Federation presents difficulties which require matured consideration because it involves not only the British Empire, but all those countries allied with her in the present struggle, all neutrals, and, possibly, enemy countries to a more or less extent. The will to co-operate may be created by an identity of economic interests greater than the combined force of identity of race, religion, language and sentiment. Thus, in the case of the South American states after the Spanish and Portuguese domination had been thrown off and it might have been naturally supposed that many elements tending to a closer union existed, these states fought amongst themselves and established separate independencies. Following the Declaration of Independence of the United States in 1776 a tariff war broke out between several of the States of the new union when it might have been expected that these states would work for the greater strength of the newly-created Republic. Pennsylvania was bitterly attacked by Delaware; and, at one time, war seemed inevitable between Vermont, New Hampshire and New York. In spite of the many ties which naturally bound together the many States of the Union, civil war broke out nearly a century later, in 1860, a war which had its economic aspects as well as the great moral issue which was at stake. On the other hand, the British Empire has held together—and may continue to do so—in spite of the great divergences of race, language, religion and sentiment, because economic interests have made such a closer Imperial Federation. The British Empire, in spite of the supposed divergence of economic interests, holds together because of the identity of race, religion and language. It will thus be seen that while economic considerations may be one case this way, and in another case the other way, such considerations are vastly important. Especially is this the case with the British Empire because the present bonds of loyalty and sympathy which hold this wonderful organization together might easily be strengthened by a closer community of interest in economic arrangements.

That there can be fiscal autonomy without disruption in the Empire has been proved by experience. In the mid-Victorian era the Colonies were allowed to tax British imports; and the result of this policy was that the bulk of Canadian trade was driven to the United States. Trade does not necessarily follow the flag; neither is there any weakening of imperial ties because trade drifts away from the flag. But that there will be a change in the tariff policy of the Kingdom seems to be a foregone conclusion; free trade, for some years to come at all events, is dead.

The case of Germany will require special treatment. For many years she has adopted commercial methods to promote political and military advantage; and a trade war against her will be justifiable for, at least, such time as her institutions remain unchanged. It will depend on Germany herself how long she will remain outside the community of nations.

But the methods of imposing a tariff will have to be handled delicately because the allies of Great Britain and neutrals, too, will have to be taken into consideration. A tariff for revenue the British Empire, her allies and neutrals; and this would be a distinct concession to the out and free traders. Our war debt, pensions, etc., can only be worked off by the imposition of a tariff or special taxes which should fall on the

about every candidate this year: Has he brains, honesty and patriotism? Every boy orator, every dundiehead, every well-meaning ass, every corner grocery statesman, every cheap politician, every fair-weather returned to Congress next fall is going to slaughter the boys in your house, your street and your town. Pork and tariff are not the issues this year. There is only one issue—the war and the life of your boy.

Before you can win in France the whole distance to centralization and co-ordination, autocratic and responsible control of our war activities under go-better and get-it-done executives. We want fewer press agents and more pressure in Washington.

Before you can win in France you must bury the hyphen in America, and along with it the hyphenates who have been spreading sedition and plotting destruction. And in addition to these there is another breed of hyphenates that need your attention—the near-Americans, born and bred here, often finished abroad whose skulls are full of mush or head-cheese. These are the gentry who, when we propose to deal properly and properly with a Doctor Muck, promptly sent with gas bombs of lachrymatory stuff about their heads, and whose skulls are full of mush or head-cheese. These are the gentry who, when we propose to deal properly and properly with a Doctor Muck, promptly sent with gas bombs of lachrymatory stuff about their heads, and whose skulls are full of mush or head-cheese.

Again, when we try to suppress those centers of anti-Americanism and German propaganda, the German language papers and the teaching of German in the schools, the near-American protests to our business men that we must continue to do this favorably in language if we would do any business after the war; and to parents that the cultural value of German is so great that without it we should be a shockingly raw and uncouth people. But every American who thinks at all knows that Spanish, French and Italian has been the business language we shall need after the war. Again, all European tongues, German probably has the least cultural value.

Before you can win in France you must take Broadway and all the little Broadway of America in hand. You must do something to the evil soul of the crowd that leads the jazz life; that swills and guzzles as usual; that burps as if its fifty-dollar Liberty Bond were engraved in its heart's blood; that every American who thinks at all knows that Spanish, French and Italian has been the business language we shall need after the war.

Before you can win in France you must cure or quarantine the fellows who, at certain times, are the favorite diseases that most men contract in the early stages of their mental growth—those measles of the mind, the measles of the soul, the measles of the spirit. The plague of Russia teaches these men nothing; nor does the accumulated human experience of the centuries. They start by ignoring Nature and human nature and reach a Utopian conclusion that is like a Mohammedan's dream of heaven, a man's dream of hell for the dogs of unbelievers in their theories.

Before you can win in France you must put out of business in America those men who preach the brotherhood of man and practice hatred of all men—those who think of peace and prosperity who would bring about the millennium by violence and destruction; and those drummers for discontent, disorder and disloyalty who sell Bolshevism on a commission basis.

### You Will Win The War

(From The Saturday Evening Post.)

Two great battles against Germany are being fought—one in France and one in America. We shall win on both fronts.

Mr. Hoover says that food will win the war.

Mr. Hurley says that ships will win the war.

Other men say that guns, shells, airplanes, Thrift Stamps or Liberty Bonds will win the war. A large number hope that the other fellow will win the war. They are all mistaken.

You will win the war.

Just how soon you will win depends solely on how long it will take you to get down to first principles, to cut out your nonsensical and nonessential ideas, to discard your pea-shooter and pop-gun notions of war and to concentrate yourself and everything you possess on a one-hundred-mile front line in France.

Someone has pointed with pride to the fact that Great Britain is fighting on thirty-seven fronts. But this is at best a necessary evil, a defensive measure to safeguard the British Empire itself. The statement was made to lend force to an argument that the United States should divert men and money to Russia. We hope that this will not be done. Until Germany is whipped on the Western front she is

### The Spiritual Tide

An influential body of Presbyterians recently waited on President Wilson of the United States offering their services for any special work which the President might choose. "Go back to your places," said the President, "and keep the spiritual life at high tide." America's entrance into the war brought with it the spirit of a crusade, something of the same spirit that hovered over the crusades to rescue the Holy Sepulchre from the infidels and the United States had nothing to win in unsheathing the sword that had rusted in its scabbard for over a hundred years; their one outstanding aim was to "make the world safe for democracy." With such high ideals and with such high purposes as the guiding star of a great and free democracy through the turbulent scenes of destructive war, the President asks America's millions to consecrate their lives to the enormous task that lay before them.

Behind the grim necessity of the struggle for our very existence, that same high and lofty purpose animates the forces of the other Allies who, for four years, have been holding the line and have sacrificed the lives of many thousands to strike the death-blow of their common struggles and sacrifices. If, indeed, this war is a holy war in which the fundamental principles of Christianity are involved, we must not only be ready to die, but we must be ready to live. The spiritual life is not given to man to discern the thoughts of God; His ways are not our ways, nor His thoughts our thoughts. But it is not for us to suppose that He looks upon the present struggle as He looks upon the struggle of the individual through the darkness toward the light. That great principle of right and wrong which is the basis of all morality is the basis of all morality; and that the conception of these principles is written upon the brow of German civilization, a letters of blood is just as certain as the letters of the Great War and the material gains during these four years of pain and sorrow. And they have been worthy of those material gains because they have devoutly worshipped the god of materialism, the god of Mammon, and have sacrificed Jesus Christ and His gospel of universal brotherhood on the altar of materialism. But the compelling spirit that strengthens the arm of the Allied cause is the same spirit that strengthens the arm of the missionary, the same spirit that draws the money-changers out of the temple because they had made it a den of thieves. Only weakness can come to that arm through lack of spiritual life that reaches prayer and truth and work in the world. The spiritual tide is to be kept at its highest ebb, we will have unshaken faith in the final issue of the battle; but both without works is been too weak to point the way to a

### Outposts of Civilization

We call the attention of our readers to a letter from Mrs. H. H. Colwell, which appears in another column. Dr. and Mrs. Colwell represent St. Paul's Presbyterian church in the Mission Field in India. They are among an unnumbered and unnamed host of men and women who are engaged in the Christian effort to vivify the chains of Empire on the outposts of civilization. They are striving, day after day, to brighten the darkened minds of unlettered, superstitious India with that Light of the world which is the Light of men, through the merciful ministrations of medical service. Staggering along through the avenues of time, Christianity and civilization have gone hand in hand; and to the untiring missionaries of the Cross who have probed the silent, seething, unexplored places of the earth belongs much of the credit of building on secure foundations the greatest empire in the world. Had these men and women not blazed the trail of civilization in distant lands such as India, these jewels would never have been added to the imperial crown, and the Empire would have been the poorer for it. Had these men and women not been so closely interwoven with the noble effort of Christian missions, it might not be out of place to add just here that there lingers in the breast of many thoughtful men the latent thought, though not dead, hope that the time may come when the spirit of Christianity will so infuse the governments of our country that it will not be thought of place for some member of the House to propose that a certain sum of money be devoted to the efforts of Christian missions in such and such a field. The debt which the Empire owes to these silent empire-builders has never been fittingly recognized by these institutions among whose

### The German Drive

As was the case in the Amiens and the Lys offensives, the drive in the south along the Aisne, aimed at Paris, was checked on about the seventh day. The element of surprise, greatly aided in all three cases by thick fog, worked to the advantage of the enemy for that length of time. The arrival of reserves, rendered more difficult because they had to pass around the outside of a semi-circle, began to halt the latest drive about the fifth or sixth day; by the seventh it had been almost halted; and at this time, the line is practically stationary with the Allies making minor counter-attacks and improving their positions at certain points. It is quite safe to say that the whole aspect of the war has undergone a definite change within the last few months. It will be remembered that offensives of a year ago began with a concentration of artillery lasting for several days and in some cases two weeks. This is no longer the case because the science of war has discovered means of breaking through wire entanglements in a much shorter time. Heavy trench mortars are used to blast out these entanglements; and tanks have made themselves extremely useful in this respect. The Germans have depended upon the weight of their numbers to push through the openings made by tanks and mortars and have, since March 21st, made great progress in point of newly-acquired territory. The latest attack which began on May 27th was along a forty-mile front and yielded the Germans some 45,000 prisoners, 400 guns and some thousands of machine guns. We have since been assured that the loss in guns has already been made good. The loss to the enemy in men has been relatively higher than our losses, but there is no doubting the fact that the operation was a successful one from the German point of view. It enables them to start the job bells ringing in Berlin; and that is an essential part of the German war machine. It brings them nearer Paris, from which they are now only about 45 miles; and such operations are to continue with the same measure of success, the Germans will soon be under the walls of Paris, and the German heavy siege artillery. We should not forget, however, that geo-

### A Constitutional Weakness

When Sir Robert Borden told Parliament a few weeks ago that if the motion to abolish titles in Canada was not defeated, he would resign and let some one else form a Government, in all probability he had something else in mind at that time. The motion was defeated, but Sir Robert Borden's motion carried, it would have meant the defeat of the Government; our constitution provides that when a government is defeated on any measure it must resign. It is considered that, in such an event, the government (which is the people) no longer possesses the confidence of the people because the majority of the people's representatives have out-voted a measure for which the government was responsible. The passing of such a motion would have meant a vote of censure on the government followed by the government's resignation. Sir Robert Borden is highly likely to carry on the Government war machine; and that with that motion which had nothing to do with the war should not be the means of defeating the will of the people as expressed last December. Sir Robert Borden's resignation as well as most people in Canada that Mr. Nickel's views on the question of titles express the views of the majority of the Canadians; but the question at this time, like scores of others being uselessly debated in the House of Commons, can stand over until more weighty matters in connection with the war are disposed of.

The fact is that this incident of Parliament points to weakness in our constitutional system. In the United States, the government is appointed for five years, and could not be defeated on such a measure as this. Nor is it likely that the government in that country would, by any of its legislation, get hopelessly out of touch with the people. Democracy is too outspoken and too powerful; and such a system works for the freer expression of the people. Under our system of government, it is necessary for a government measure to be passed, or the government loses the confidence of the people and is defeated. Consequently, the party which holds up the supporters of the government and tells them how they must vote on a given measure. It does away with much of that independence of spirit and expression of opinion that we would like to see amongst the members of parliament. Many a man has gone to the House of Commons with the determination

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