

would force us to temporarily adopt it. I do not think, however, that that time has yet arrived in Canada.

In contradistinction to conscription, I do believe that a large militia force should be efficiently maintained and that all young men as far as possible should go through a few years of military training. It will bring them under a discipline that many of them require and give them a physical training that will be of advantage to them in after life. I also think we should have a small standing army that would act largely as a police force, ready to suppress any sudden outbreak of riots or repel any possible marauding invading force. But these factors should be used only as adjuncts in the building up of our nation and should not occupy any commanding position such as a conscription army naturally would do. Any attempt at the jingling of spurs or the rattling of sabres as in Germany should be promptly frowned down. Exercise, drill and discipline are indispensable for the upbuilding of our boys on mental, moral and physical lines, but not militarism. That horror will receive its death blow in Germany's defeat.

The Claims of Belgium.

Before closing these remarks I desire to again call your attention to the noble little country whose cause I am using my feeble efforts to plead. It is the cause of a country literally overrun by fire and sword, of a people whose sufferings wring the heart of humanity and whose wrongs cry to high heaven for redress. I ask for no charity for Belgium, that word is a misnomer in her case, as any assistance rendered her is but part payment of a debt that can never be repaid in full. Belgium was broken on the wheel and is now writhing in agony in the grasp of a cruel and relentless taskmaster largely for our sake. The last straw seems to have been piled on her back when her brutal conquerors forced her men and women to work in the munition factories and help turn out death-dealing instruments to be used against their own flesh and blood. The people were driven to comply with the German demand by one of the most damnable acts ever recorded. According to information received by the New York Times, notices were circulated calling for hands to work in these shops. Nobody applied for a job. Next came the issue of proclamations offering double pay to all accustomed to gun-making. Nobody appeared. The next step of the German authorities was to seize and shoot five men who were known to be skilled arm-workers. This had no effect in the desired direction. Three days elapsed, then ten more men were taken out and shot. No applicants for jobs in the arms factories appearing, the Germans waited three days again and then stood up twenty men and shot them. The slaughter was assuming such nearly