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GREATER sympathy between rich and poor, between the prosperous and the struggling, is a need of this continent. Every day one may go about the streets of our larger cities and see men with self-contented smiles and women adorned in bright raiment who are not thinking very much about those less fortunate than themselves. That prosperity and wealth bring with them responsibility towards those who have neither is a truth too widely unrecognised. The greatest curse of any civilisation is the rich who reckon not of the poor.

It is not that the poor require charity or dole. Charity is only a make-shift. It is a temporary expedient. The man who signs a cheque for a thousand dollar gift to a hospital or an associated charity is to be credited with a good deed, but a man who gives twenty-five per cent. of his time to improving the conditions, social and industrial, under which his fellow-men struggle for existence, is doing a greater work. Better houses, better education, better wages, better food and greater opportunities—these are what the strugglers need. They can only get these boons by the sympathy of men of wealth and influence.



IN Great Britain there is to-day a great struggle between the idle rich and the idle poor, with the other classes trying to effect a readjustment. The same struggle is going on in Canada in a less acute and less pronounced form. The cities of Canada are, comparatively speaking, almost as well supplied with unfortunates as any city in Great Britain. The rich are becoming richer in Canada just as in Great Britain or the United States. Luxury and extravagance are becoming almost as common. The attitude which leads men to say that we should be thankful that affairs here are not as bad as in the motherland is a mistaken attitude. Considering the extent of our territory and the ease with which wealth is extracted from nature, our conditions are hardly less satisfactory.

To-day, the public domain of Canada is being distributed with a lavish hand. The natural wealth of the people is rapidly passing into private hands. As a generation, we care little and think less of posterity, yet the welfare of posterity is the welfare of Canada as a whole. Our ideal should not be the making of millionaires, but the making of a prosperous and contented people. To create a body of idle rich will serve only to bring us in fifty years to the condition in which Great Britain now finds itself. The ideal of every legislator, and Canada possesses many hundreds of them, should be to initiate and support such legislation as will tend to conserve the natural wealth of the nation for the people as a whole, and such laws as will tend to give every citizen, present and future, equal opportunity.



GERMAN and Canadian relations are receiving more attention than they have for some years. This is not particularly due to any change in the Canadian attitude. Canada has always been willing to trade with Germany. It was Germany's resentment of the British preference granted by Canada in 1897 which caused all the trouble between the two countries. It has required twelve years of non-intercourse to prove to Germany that one portion of the British Empire has the right to grant a preference to another portion of the British Empire without laying itself open to the charge that it is discriminating against a foreign country. When Canada gave British goods preferential treatment Germany wrongly interpreted this as an anti-German movement.

It was necessary that Canada should make a fight on this point. If she allowed the German interpretation of Canadian conduct to stand it would have made colonial preferential tariffs impossible. There was a principle at stake and that principle had to be vindicated. The vindication has been expensive, but it has been accomplished.

There is every reason to believe that a trade treaty between Canada and Germany would be beneficial to this country. Germany

REFLECTIONS

By STAFF WRITERS

is a large buyer of the classes of material which Canada exports. Germany buys six million dollars' worth of agricultural implements annually, of which Canada supplies less than a million dollars' worth. Germany buys seven and a half million dollars' worth of apples of which Canada supplies less than one-third of a million. Of the eighteen million dollars' worth of fish annually imported, Canada supplies only one per cent. Of the two hundred million dollars' worth of bread stuffs only one-third of one per cent. is taken from Canada. Germany also imports large quantities of hides, skins, furs, leather, seeds and lumber, but of these Canada supplies only infinitesimal quantities.

Germany should be one of Canada's best customers. The land of the Kaiser is a great purchaser, and Canada should be the great seller. It is foolish for anyone to assert that a reasonable trade treaty between the two countries would not be in the best interests of all classes of Canadians. This is especially true at a time when Canadian products are being gradually excluded from the United States markets. Hereafter practically everything which Canada has to sell must be sold in Europe. We are doing well in Great Britain. We have concluded a fair treaty with France which should lead to increased trade. Now is the time to make a similar arrangement which will open the great German market to all Canadian exports.



THE constitution of the "Association of Canadian Clubs" is an interesting document. The aims of this new body are simple and clear:

"The object of the Association shall be to foster Canadian patriotism by encouraging the formation of Canadian Clubs and by promoting their success. To facilitate the interchange of Club privileges and the transfer of membership among Canadian Clubs. To facilitate the interchange among Clubs of their documents, publications, and of other useful information."

The membership is composed of clubs, not individuals, and in voting each club is to have only one vote no matter how many delegates it has present.

We have already expressed the opinion that a central organisation might hamper the individuality of the various clubs and tend to create a rigidity which would be disastrous. Those who have promoted this organisation hope, undoubtedly, to avoid these possible results. They are enthusiastic. They believe the Canadian Clubs have done much good wherever established and they desire to see more clubs created. When these new organisations are born, the Association or Headquarters should, they claim, be of considerable benefit in supplying information, literature, suggestions and speakers. The interchange of ideas would no doubt help to keep alive the enthusiasm so necessary in such organisations. Much, however, will depend on the men in charge of the central organisation. If they are too aggressive or if they commence agitating propaganda the result will be disaster to the whole movement. Wisdom and conservatism should be their chief characteristics.



ONTARIO is awakening to the fact that it is not making progress in architecture. Little is said or thought of this subject. In Toronto, for example, all the public school buildings are designed by a builder who is not an architect, and the Board of Education appears to consider that architecture is something which may be safely overlooked. They do not appear to realise that beautiful buildings have an educative effect upon the taste of the community. Even the University authorities have overlooked the study of architecture. There is no place on the curriculum for this subject. Indeed the beautiful Main Building of the University, which is one of the finest pieces of architecture on the continent, has been surrounded by buildings of a nondescript style. Some of them are almost hideous.

The Ontario Society of Architects explains this defect in