

parties but whenever this is done it is generally found that no assets are available and the creditors suffer practically a dead loss. This method of doing business has repeatedly occurred of late and it is time that something was done to put a stop to it. The remedy is plain and may be readily applied. The produce trade should be placed on the same footing as the grain trade. The powers of the present Grain Commission should be enlarged to include the farm produce dealers and it should be made compulsory for produce merchants to be licensed and bonded, just as grain dealers are required to be under the Grain Act. Dominion legislation to this effect should be passed and can be made to operate in any province, subject to the order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. This matter requires immediate attention and if sufficient farmers will interest themselves there is no reason why the farm produce trade can not be placed upon as efficient a working basis as the grain trade.

### FIGHTING THE SUBMARINE

The submarine, practically untested before the present war, is without doubt the deadliest instrument of warfare which has so far appeared upon the scene. Great battleships, which cannot be hidden, fall an easy prey to the tiny submersible which steals up unseen and discharges its deadly torpedo without exposing itself to attack for more than a few seconds. Into waters infested with submarines no fleet may go without severe losses. But it will not always be so. The history of naval construction in recent years has been a series of in-

ventions, each one designed to nullify that which preceded it. The torpedo and torpedo boat, for instance were followed by the torpedo net and the torpedo boat destroyer, and high power guns and explosives brought about armor plate, followed in turn by still bigger guns and still heavier armor plate. It is only to be expected, therefore, that the success of the submarine should set inventors to work designing a submarine destroyer, and hints have recently appeared in the press that the British authorities, who have an "inventions board" of experts to test and select the new ideas submitted to them, are preparing to use a new form of defense which will effectually check the activities of the enemy submarines. It is also announced that swift motor boats capable of running from 30 to 60 miles an hour and armed with suitable guns are to be employed in destroying submarines, scouring the seas in search of enemy periscopes and destroying them with a well directed shot before they can submerge. Great Britain, of course, has the most to gain by the construction of an effective submarine destroyer, because her navy and her mercantile marine are on the high seas, where they are subject to attack, whereas the greater part of the ships of the enemy are lying idle in harbor. Submarine warfare, however, has not been entirely on one side, the British having sunk a number of enemy ships by this means in the Sea of Marmora, including at least one troopship carrying Turkish soldiers to the defence of the Dardanelles. There is something ironical, in view of the events of the past year, in the reference to submarines contained in the eleventh

edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, published in 1910-11. In an article on navies the Encyclopaedia says:

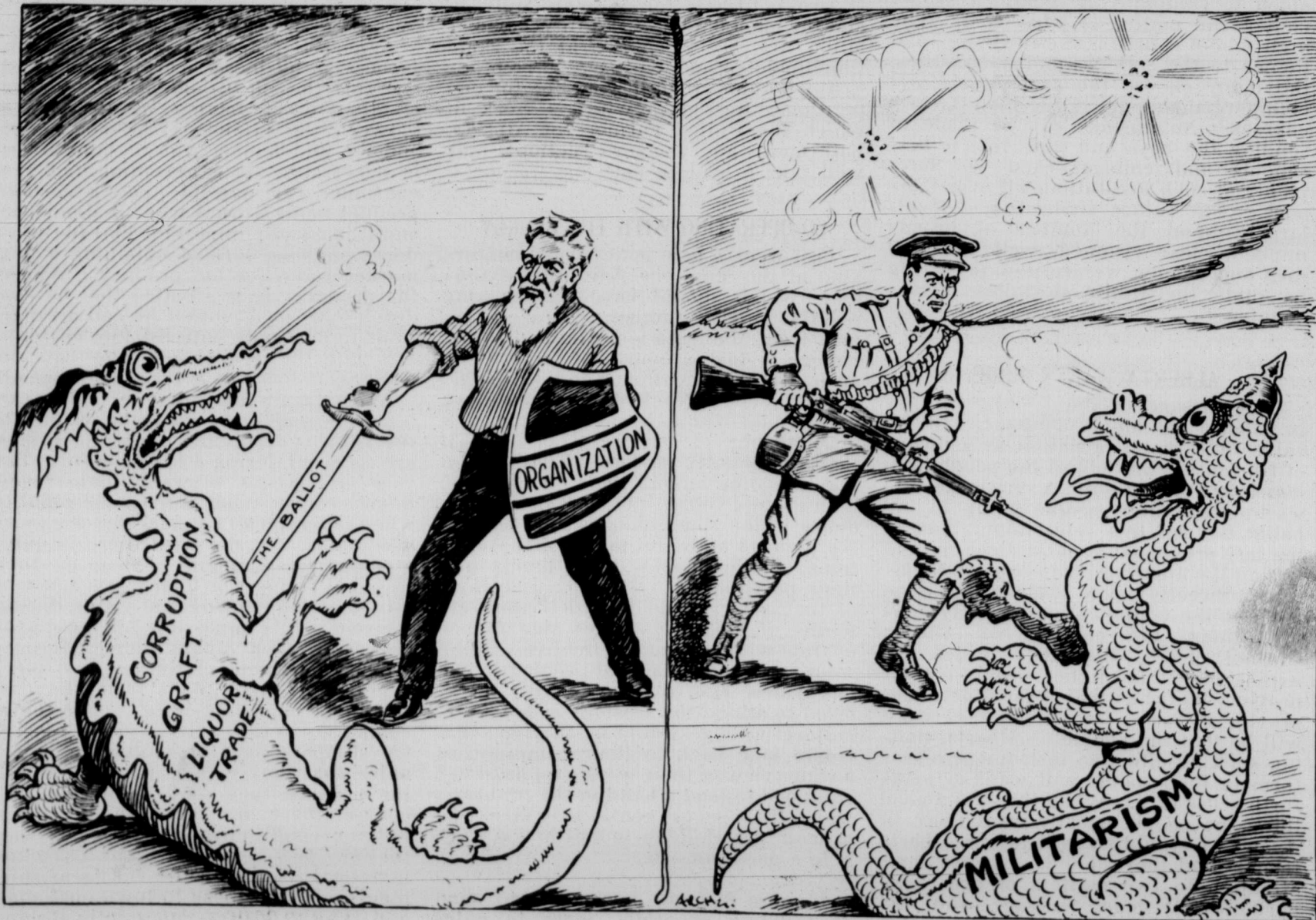
"The submarine and submergible vessels were brought into prominence by France, in the hope that by diminishing the value of battleships they would reduce the superiority of the British navy. The example of France was followed by other powers, and particularly by Great Britain, but their value as weapons of war is necessarily a matter of speculation."

Would it not have been better for the human race, and especially for the countries engaged on both sides in this war, if submarines and every other device used in modern scientific warfare had never been invented?

Manitoba has been ruled by a reactionary government for the greater part of the past 16 years, and now with a government and an opposition both pledged to progressive and democratic measures an era of reform and advancement should be before the province. It will now be the duty of the people of Manitoba of every shade of politics to insist upon the new government carrying out its promises in spirit as well as to the letter and giving the province an efficient, honest and businesslike administration.

Farmers thruout the West are giving an acre to the Empire. Have you sent in your Patriotic Acre card yet?

Manitoba elected three Independents to the legislature at the general election last week. In one case the new member was elected in a three-cornered fight, defeating the candidates of both old parties.



### BOTH "DOING THEIR BIT"

While the boys are at the front fighting the foreign foe, many a father is doing his duty just as patriotically fighting the country's enemies at home. The destruction of graft, corruption, and the evils of the liquor traffic; the establishment of just, democratic government, and the bettering of economic conditions are just as truly the work of a patriot as the overthrowing of militarism.