

priated the Sudbury mines and cornered the production of nickel in Canada for the sole use of British shipbuilders, even at a profit to Canada, it would have done to the British Empire a far greater service than by building six dreadnoughts or sending 100,000 untrained men to the front.

Why was it not done? Why was it not suggested by the British Admiralty? For the simple reason that the enormous profits derived from the patented use of nickel in the making of armour-plates and cannons were controlled by a pool which included the German shipbuilders and their English rivals. The stoppage of German naval construction and of the making of German heavy artillery might have spared us this war and kept Canada and the whole Empire at peace; but it would have curtailed the enormous profits derived by the shareholders of Vickers-Maxim, Cammell-Laird, Armstrong-Whitworth, as well as those of the great German firm at Essen, to which these British firms are, in fact, financially allied.

What is the results? The German bullet that will pierce the forehead or the breast of our Canadian boys has been hardened with Canadian nickel; the shrapnel which brings slaughter and untold sufferings to thousands of British and Canadian soldiers has been rendered more deadly because of the use of Canadian nickel in the making of German cannons.

The high-sounding patriots, now so busy with their mouth and their pen at urging *other people* than themselves to go and fight for the Empire, might well have thought of this long ago.

Criminal neglect

As may be seen, there was and there is still more than one means of helping the cause of the allies and fighting their enemy. (*)

(*) Had it not been beyond the purview of this lecture, I might have added that Canada could also every materially help the British government by loosening the restrictions placed upon Hindu immigration. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Harcourt, has recently appealed to both the Canadian and Australian governments to do something in order to relieve the feeling of

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