

**Commission of Conservation  
CANADA**

Sir CLIFFORD STROVE, K.C.M.G.

Chairman

JAMES WHITE

Assistant to Chairman and Deputy  
Head

CONSERVATION is published the first of each month. Its object is the dissemination of information relative to the natural resources of Canada, their development and proper conservation, and the publication of timely articles on town-planning and public health.

The newspaper edition is printed on one side of the paper only, for convenience in clipping for reproduction.

OTTAWA, JULY, 1918

**CONSERVE OR PERISH**

Whether we have a high tariff or no tariff, an income tax or a head tax, direct or indirect taxation, bimetalism or a single standard, national banks or state banks, are matters which concern, to be sure, the temporary convenience of the members of society, but their prejudicial adjustment is easily remediable; when ill effects become apparent, the inconveniences may be removed with but little harm to the community and none to mankind at large, or to the future. But whether fertile lands are turned into deserts, forests into waste places, brooks into torrents, rivers changed from means of power and intercourse into means of destruction and desolation—these are questions which concern the material existence itself of society, and since such changes become often irreversible, the damage irremediable, and at the same time the extent of available resources becomes smaller in proportion to population, their consideration is finally much more important than those other questions of the day.

Only those nations who develop their national resources economically, and avoid the waste of that which they produce, can maintain their power or even secure the continuance of their separate existence.—*D. B. E. Fernow.*

**CONSERVING POSTERITY**

Conservation of child life is more than ever a prime necessity in every civilized country. Four years of war, with its fearful wastage of human life, has brought home to men as perhaps never before, the potentiality of the child and the need for husbanding that most valuable resource of any nation.

For many years, the birth-rate in Germany has been proportionately larger than in the Allied countries. She is now credited with taking drastic measures to maintain the birth-rate in order to fully offset the loss of men in battle. By such means she hopes, by sheer weight of numbers, to eventually force her will on the world.

Our finer conception of marriage prevents us seeking to maintain the national birth-rate by means that are alleged to be in force in Germany. However, it is possible to make a vast improvement in our infant mortality ratio. The infant mortality statistics of Britain, the United States and Can-

ada have long been a standing reproach to our civilization. Why should 27 per cent. of the children born in any Canadian city die before reaching the age of one year? Yet those are the official figures for 1916 in one of the oldest cities in Canada and other Canadian cities have very little reason for pointing a scornful finger at that particular municipality. Such conditions are a national disgrace and every effort should be made to set them. To check similar waste of child life, both Great Britain and the United States have recently re-organized their Children's Bureaus; Canada should follow their example. Organizations, such as the Local Councils of Women, have done much to remedy the evil, but the work requires and deserves State support and

**WAR GARDEN MARAUDERS**

The other day in Hespeler, Ontario, a man let his dog run loose and damage a war garden. As a result, he paid for the damage done and contributed \$5 besides to the court fines. Probably he was only careless, but he will not be the next time. It is even more important for municipal authorities to protect war gardens than it is to encourage people to undertake them. In every town and city in Canada, the people have responded patriotically to the appeal for greater production and owners of marauding dogs, parents of careless children, or adult vandals should be given their lesson early in the season. A few fines will do wonders and it is just as important to give wide publicity to the

which must be strictly enforced.

The opening of the vacation season, and the exodus to summer resorts carries with it a threatened danger. In many places, little attempt is made to protect the waters; in fact, the lakes and rivers are considered a convenient means of disposing of refuse. It is not possible for inspectors to visit every nook and corner to see that cottagers or campers are obeying the law. The responsibility must rest upon and be accepted by the people themselves.

The inland waters belong to the Canadian people; and it is not too much to ask that every care be taken to prevent contamination, either directly or by drainage or seepage. Only by the people exercising this care can the waters be saved from pollution and this source of food supply be conserved.

**CONSERVATION WORK COMMENDED**

*THE Canadian Manufacturers' Association in its annual convention at Montreal on June 12 and 13, expressed its appreciation of the work of the Commission of Conservation in the following resolution:*

*Whereas the Commission of Conservation of Canada has been largely responsible for the development of favourable public opinion on the perpetuation of forests, their safeguarding from fire and pests; the valuable information accumulated by them bearing on our enormous fire waste; the improvement of housing conditions in congested localities; the establishment of proper methods of general fire prevention; the beautifying of municipalities and betterment of living and social conditions; the economic utility of systems of good roads and the prevention of the alienation of water-powers, land, minerals and other natural resources;*

*And whereas the public opinion so created has become crystallized in the form of municipal regulations, Dominion and Provincial legislation having in view the eradication of existing evils pointed out by the Commission;*

*And whereas there is still great necessity for the stimulation of public interest in best methods of conservation of resources, material, human, and all others for which the Commission has devised an admirably fitted organization;*

*Be it therefore resolved that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in convention assembled record its deep appreciation of and continued interest in the work carried on by the Commission of Conservation and its high approval of the efforts of the Commission to promote the development of natural resources on a basis which ensures continuous supplies and eliminates extravagance and waste.*

*In a resolution dealing with the necessity of providing more adequate housing facilities, the Association "respectfully suggests to the Dominion Government that immediate progress can be made by enlarging and emphasizing the work of the Housing and Town-planning Branch of the Commission of Conservation."*

direction. In peace times, Canada spends large sums to encourage immigrants to settle here and, at the same time, permits children of native stock to die needlessly by the thousand every year.

Factors such as housing, home nursing, cleanliness, sanitary milk supplies and the education and care of mothers must be considered. It is a many-sided problem and the country as a whole should share the responsibility and honour of solving it.—*A. D.*

Accuracy is a prime factor of conservation. An American engineer stated recently that he had seen a British plant employing eleven thousand persons making over American-made fuses.

court proceedings as it is to impose the punishment. In some places, the police force will have to be stirred up. A few complaints in person, or by telephone, to the chief of police, will soon make the force alert. Once they realize that public opinion is strongly in favour of making the war garden marauder pay the penalty, that individual will have a hard time of it.—*M. J. P.*

**PROTECTING INLAND WATERS**

Food conservation has directed attention to the inland lakes and rivers of Canada, in that from these much of the fish being marketed in interior towns and cities is secured. The protection of these waters, therefore, becomes a paramount duty, and one

**SHOOTING TO HIT**

*Being a Homily for War-Time Workers*

A well-trained infantryman is an expert on rapid fire. He can fire his rifle the maximum number of times a minute and most of his shots will be "inners"; or he can group his shots on specified points of the target with the same all-but-unerring skill. When he faces an advancing enemy he wastes but few cartridges. Coolly, rapidly and with precision he sends each bullet into its living, moving "billet". He has confidence and self-assurance, because he knows what to do and how to do it. If the line he is in is but thinly held, he does not get an attack of "nerves"; but applies himself with even greater intensity to his task of shooting to hit. If his rifle "jams" he takes up another, but he does not think of quitting, or of engaging his neighbour in pessimistic talk.

We, at home, must follow his example. We cannot stand on the "firing-step" to check the Hun's advance. The enemies we fight are less tangible and perhaps more insidious. Hunger is one of them; idle, depressing conversation is another. Second only in importance to keeping the army at full strength is that of producing and conserving food. Men are being called from farms as well as from every other producing industry. Our reserves are being moved into the front line. But, even if the line is getting thinner, do not get an attack of "nerves" and think of throwing up your hands or of running away. Try some rapid fire in the producing line. Show your skill in grouping your shots on the most dangerous targets. If your implements are "jammed" from want of help, join up with your neighbour who may be in a similar plight. Such team-work may keep two farms from being useless in the fight for freedom. Or if male labour is out of the question, enlist the women. Thousands of British women have been on farms during the past two years and if the need arises Canadian women will be no less dauntless. Shoot quickly, shoot to hit and keep on shooting.—*A. D.*