

surely would. A battle ground three, four thousand miles away—what is it to men who never smelt salt water, and whose attachment to the threatened Motherland has been chiefly nourished on paper and on borrowing facilities?

Why then should they go or be very much concerned about others going? There, right there, you come up against the whole spirituality of this Canadian war; the complete test of our ability to rise to heights we have set ourselves to climb. Right here we need EYES TO SEE AND A TORCH TO CARRY.

Very Much Our Affair.

Here is the question, the answer to which covers all our relations to the war: Are the liberties of Canada being fought for on the fields of France and Flanders? If they are not we might have been free from responsibility for joining in the war. If they are, the responsibility is upon us as much as it would be if our own dear land were being despoiled. The responsibility being upon us it is our ruthless duty to carry it, however much the burden bends the body and beats upon the spirit. You cannot honorably make war with one hand and play hockey with the other.

There are two broadly different attitudes that are being shewn towards the war. One is that it is our affair, and an affair of life and death for the Empire of which we are a vital part. The other is that we are helping somebody else, in somebody else's scrap, and that we must do what we can afford, in view of financial obligations already incurred for works still to be built.

It is a sort of contribution to the maintenance of the Britannic church, rather unpleasant, of course, but this is no time to quarrel with orthodoxy. Still it is possible to have too much of a good thing; and there are big works to be kept going, and financing isn't any too easy.

We are cut off from the London money market for all except war materials and pay, and as we are not allowed to go on borrowing in the old

sweet way, you know, endurance of that totally unexpected deprivation is one of our very serious contributions to the war. The war is very important, and all that, but the new Welland Canal must be finished.

That this is not an exaggeration of certain states of mind which are obvious, where they should be hid, is wonderfully illustrated in the February number of the Toronto Board of Trade News. This paper, which is the official organ of the most important commercial body in the British Empire outside the United Kingdom, has twice distinguished itself in its references to war matters.

"Safety First," Before War.

Last September it suppressed a resolution unanimously passed by a general meeting of the Board, intended to promote recruiting, and now it comes out with a front page feature "Canada's Duty, 1915," in which keeping up our part in the fight to redeem civilization is mentioned absolutely last—well after "Safety First."

Plainly, the Intelligence Department of the Toronto Board of Trade regards the war as quite a subsidiary necessity of the times. When the organ of a body of nearly three thousand business men in the most important city of Canada shows its mind in the ways here mentioned it is pretty certain that the temper that is testified to by the Patriotism and Production lectures is more widely diffused than we have liked to think.

The situation needs what, again, Peter McArthur calls "a great awakening." That awakening can only come through those who REALIZE what the war means to Canada; however few, however scattered they may be. For the everlasting honor of our country is involved. The Prime Minister, speaking for us all, in Parliament and out, has said that our part in the war shall be limited only by the need.

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