

angry suspicion that the majority of the cheerers were secretly pleased at the prospect of reading in their newspapers exciting accounts of the killing of Boer farmers and British soldiers. There is something rather contemptible about vicarious war; few people admire Carthage. The city dwellers who accept the conveniences of life as automatic gifts from Providence, to whom war will not mean personal hardships and danger, to whom it will not even mean the absence of water from their taps, the failure of the electric light at the switch, the disappearance of the milkman from his morning round, are prone to become infected with the excitement which comes with strained international relations. The prospect of having to parade in heavy marching order, if war came about, would sober a good many people.

Now comes a third consideration. Going to war means preparation for war. For a very long time it has been the fact that no country can hope to succeed in war unless it has made some kind of preparation in time of peace. Warships must be built, their officers and men must be trained in advance of the war in which they are to be employed. Armies must have some measure of organization in advance of hostilities, several centuries having gone by since armies raised *ad hoc* were of any value; and weapons and munitions must be provided in peace time. Once we admit that, under certain circumstances, it is just and laudable for a state to engage in war, we are forced to admit that a certain amount of preparation in peace time is just and laudable. Otherwise we commit ourselves to the doctrine that it is right to fight, but wrong to win.

At this point I turn aside to what really is a side issue, but a side issue of great practical importance: is, or is not, preparation for war invariably harmful to the individual citizens on whom the duty devolves? Our interest must lie in our own case. For Canadians preparation, if pushed to the full extent deemed necessary or advisable by our military advisers, would have two phases. One would be the training of schoolboys in drill, rifle shooting, and march-