

### The German-Speaking Canadians.

The following letter was clipped from the Winnipeg Evening Tribune of August 4, 1919, and as there are many important questions brought forward in that letter, which might not be generally known, we thought it would be of interest to some of our readers.

To the Editor of the Tribune:—

Sir:—Long before the great war commenced or was even thought possible, the Dominion Government made efforts, in order to develop the Canadian West and other parts of Canada, to induce people of all nationalities in Europe to emigrate to this Dominion. Agents and steamship companies were paid millions of dollars as bonuses for these people. Time and again it has been stated that immigrants and settlers, respectively, of German nationality—that is Germans from Germany, Austria and some parts of Russia—were among the very best and most desirable, and the authorities always welcomed these people.

That this opinion and this welcome was not misplaced, the large German settlements in Ontario and the West strikingly prove, and nobody ever hesitated to recognize the fact that our German-speaking fellow-citizens have certainly made good.

While they, one the one hand, have, therefore, carried out their part of the mutual agreement, can the same be said in favor of their English-speaking fellow-citizens? What have the latter done after the arrival of these people here in Canada? True, they have given them land and they have them employed on various jobs, but beyond that they have not gone. They do nothing to educate them up to Canadian citizenship or to British ideals. On the contrary, many unscrupulous politicians have not hesitated in corrupting them. These people knew nothing of such election machinations as slipping a five or a ten dollar bill, or in many cases a bottle of whisky into their hands in order to get their vote, and it goes without saying that probably the majority of them formed their own opinions about the ideals of citizenship whenever they were told of the latter.

But all this has not prevented these people from becoming prosperous, from taking a very important part in the development of the vast area to which they were invited and from becoming, in general, a part of the community inferior to none and superior to many.

Then the Great War broke out. And it must be admitted that our German-speaking fellow-citizens—at least by far the greater majority of them—have kept faith. Whatever individual open antagonism may have been shown, the behavior of the great bulk has been beyond reproach. That their sentiments were with the land of their birth, where in most cases they have near relatives, is natural, and any man with common sense must in fairness admit that they would not be good and desirable citizens of this their country of adoption if it were otherwise. But they kept their counsel. They continued to till the soil and produce foodstuffs; others assisted in the various industries necessary to help the allies; others again offered their services and their lives to their adopted country, and so forth.

But while they themselves kept faith, the Canadian Government did likewise. No person of German nationality within the boundaries of Canada, no matter whether he was naturalized or whether he was, technically speaking, still a citizen of the land of his birth, was molested in any way so long as he complied with the rules and regulations laid down by the government and made necessary in times of war, and so long as he did not

make himself obnoxious in any way. The "War Time Election Act" is being used by some politicians as an accusation of unjust treatment. But the German-speaking Canadians, the people most concerned, do not complain, because that Act in return gave them privileges much more valuable than their votes.

For four years our foreign-born element was permitted, under censorship, to publish their newspapers in their own language, and there can be no doubt that they appreciated that fact. Some months prior to the conclusion of an armistice which meant the cessation of hostilities and an eventual peace, the Dominion Government acceded to the demands made by the War Veterans and prohibited the further publication of newspapers in enemy languages. Some modifications have been made since with reference to this measure, but the papers in the German language are still under the ban, in spite of the fact that it has been frequently stated that it was not a fight against the German language or even against the German people, but merely a fight against German autocracy and militarism. And were does the consistency of such a measure come in, when the Dominion Government themselves have tens and thousands of pamphlets in the German language printed and distributed among these people during the Victory Loan and now in the War Savings Stamps Campaign? When German-American papers are allowed into the country and delivered by a Government agency, the postal authorities?

These papers were the only means by which laws and regulations of the authorities have been interpreted to hundreds of thousands of our German-speaking population, most of their first generation being unable to correctly understand the intricacies and all the fine points of the English language.

Is this fair? Is this just? Is this British? These people have not forced their presence upon this country; they have been invited and persuaded to come, fully trusting that the promise of true liberty would be kept under any circumstances, unless they themselves abuse such liberty and forego the right to be treated according to the principles of the British constitutions. Are these people to be punished for not complying with the laws and regulations of this country when they are unable to correctly interpret them?

Serious as the question just mentioned is, there is one still more serious, and that is the demand of the wholesale deportation of the alien enemies in our midst, which by most people, is understood to mean, all of them, including those in possession of their naturalization papers. It is high time that the Dominion Government or the Dominion Parliament, respectively, express themselves definitely on this point. These demands and the uncertainty caused by them have already been the cause of uncalculable harm from a business point of view. These people do not know where they stand or what is going to happen. They are naturally afraid to invest any of their savings or to go into any enterprise that might be of more or less benefit not only to themselves, but to the whole community in which they live. The returned soldiers must be provided for, of course, the very best thing is just about good enough for them. The alien is now being reproached for having lived on the fat of the land during the war, but what about the cry: "Keep the home-fires burning?" What about the fact that Canada would not have been in a position to supply the Allies with those enormous quantities of food, if the alien had not assisted materially in producing it? Six months ago any man who did not work was punished for loafing.

Is an alien now to be punished because he works?

Hundreds of young Canadians of German nationality have offered their services and their lives to the country. What answer will their fellow-citizens of other nationalities have for them when they, on their return, find the only language suppressed that their parents understand? When they hear of the cry that all of them are to be deported? Has British tolerance, British fair play and the old British motto, never to kick a man when he is down, have all these principles died out? Is Christianity itself a

failure which teaches good will to all men?

The German-speaking population of Canada have had no part in bringing about this war. They have deplored it no less and probably more than many others.

If it is not considered desirable at present that the German-Canadian papers should be printed wholly in German, why not allow them the privilege of being printed half in English and half in German, in parallel columns?

Thanking you for the privilege of inserting this in your paper, I am,  
A RETURNED OFFICER.

### Mortality Estimated at 20,000,000, With Over 7,000,000 Soldiers.

(Contributions by the 16 Nations Actually Mobilized.)

According to the most authoritative or official statistics, the deaths directly due to the war or indirectly inflicted by it number between 16,000,000 and 20,000,000, over 7,000,000 of which were military and over 10,000,000 civilian.

Of the civilian deaths, over 100,000 were directly caused and nearly 10,000,000 indirectly caused by it. In the first category of civilian deaths there were the 292 Americans and the 20,620 British subjects killed at sea, 1,270 British victims of air raids, 30,000 Belgian and 40,000 French victims of the German invasion, and 7,500 neutral victims of the U-boat. The second category includes 1,085,441 Serbs dead through starvation or disease, 4,000,000 deaths from influenza and pneumonia, beyond the normal figure, and the 4,000,000 Armenian, Syrian, Greek and Jewish victims of the Turk.

The following table of military casualties, based on the official reports, have been brought up to date as far as possible:

Nation.	Mobilized.	Dead.	Wounded.	Prisoners or Missing.	Total Casualties.
<b>United States—</b>					
Army	3,665,000	65,071	189,970	14,306	269,347
Navy	529,504	1,142			1,142
Marine Corps	78,071	1,609	2,513	57	4,179
<b>British Empire—</b>					
Un. Kingdom	5,397,061	515,890	1,660,343	338,305	2,438,179
Canada, &c.	552,601	60,383	155,799	4,000	220,182
Australia, &c.	336,000	54,431	156,000	3,401	290,191
*India	1,215,338	28,000	60,000	13,439	101,439
**R. Navy (incl. U.K.)	33,361	5,183		1,222	39,766
France	7,500,000	1,385,300	2,675,000	446,800	4,506,600
Italy	5,500,000	460,000	947,000	1,393,000	2,800,000
Belgium	267,000	20,000	60,000	10,000	90,000
Russia	12,000,000	1,700,000	4,950,000	2,500,000	9,150,000
Japan	800,000	300	907	3	1,210
Rumania	750,000	200,000	120,000	80,000	400,000
Serbia	707,334	322,000	23,000	100,000	450,000
Montenegro	50,000	3,000	10,000	7,000	20,000
Greece	230,000	15,000	40,000	45,000	100,000
Portugal	100,000	4,000	15,000	200	19,200
Total	39,676,864	4,869,487	11,075,715	4,956,233	20,901,435

### CENTRAL POWERS

Germany	11,000,000	1,611,104	3,683,143	722,522	6,066,769
Austr.-Hung.	6,500,000	800,000	3,200,000	1,211,000	5,211,000
Bulgaria	400,000	101,224	152,399	10,825	264,448
Turkey	1,600,000	300,000	570,000	130,000	1,000,000
Total	19,500,000	2,812,328	7,605,542	2,074,347	12,492,217
Grand Total	59,176,864	7,681,815	18,681,257	7,030,580	33,393,652

\*These figures include both Indian and British-Indian, the former being mobilized to 953,374.

\*\*To the British naval losses should be added those of the British merchant marine—killed, 14,661; captured, 3,295.

The foregoing data have been supplemented as follows:

Jan. 21—French "effectives" at various periods in the war are officially stated to have been 3,872 on Aug. 15, 1914, increasing to approximately 5,000,000 by February, 1915, and remaining at nearly 5,200,000 from January, 1916, to the end of the war.

Feb. 11—French official statistics show that the civilian population decreased 750,000 during the war, besides 1,400,000 deaths among soldiers.

March 9—Revised French official figures place total French dead at 1,600,000, of whom 300,000 were colonials.

May 17—A new official German estimate of war losses gives 2,050,000 dead, 4,207,000 wounded, and 616,000 prisoners.

June 17—American Army general staff announces 515 casualties in Russia, with the strength of 3,073 at Archangel and 8,460 at Vladivostok.

Aug. 4—According to statistics published by the Secolo of Milan, Italy, during 1918, had 800,000 deaths caused by grip, averaging 60 percent more than the deaths caused by the whole war. The same paper estimates the deaths by grip throughout the world were double the deaths caused by the war.

### British War Cabinet Report.

The just published report of the war cabinet for 1918 summarizes as follows the empire's war report:

The strength of the regular army reserve and territorial forces on the 4th of August, 1914, was 233,514. England has since recruited 4,006,158 men. With the other enlistments in the United Kingdom and Canada, the total white enlistments in the whole empire were 7,130,280. The figures of enlistment for races other than white, including over 1,250,000 from India, were 1,524,187, giving a grand total of all the empire of 8,654,467. In addition to these, Chinese and other labor units were raised for service in Saloniki, Egypt and Mesopotamia.

The following were the total casualties of the British Empire to the end of 1918:

	Killed	Wounded	Missing
Officers	38,264	92,412	11,958
Other Ranks	628,569	1,948,378	342,610

### OFFICIAL WEATHER REPORT FOR MUENSTER, SASK.

DATE	1919		1918		1917	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
1. June	65	30	67	41	62	40
2. "	64	31	60	35	60	28
3. "	67	50	60	35	67	33
4. "	74	30	69	34	70	33
5. "	80	42	62	45	70	40
6. "	87	53	69	29	77	47
7. "	74	40	77	48	80	45
8. "	75	38	76	45	77	42
9. "	71	50	81	47	74	51
10. "	75	45	90	58	68	45
11. "	76		87	49	47	40
12. "	70		80	47	44	35
13. "	75		76	53	60	32
14. "			93	55	69	30
15. "			63	54	79	45
16. "			73	35	80	42
17. "	82	60	76	55	80	57
18. "	80	53	79	51	69	40
19. "	85	56	86	54	68	45
20. "	85	53	70	57	54	45
21. "	85	64	69	47	66	33
22. "	86	53	88	53	54	41
23. "	92	50	84	49	63	47
24. "	85	54	69	52	65	36
25. "	73	49	70	53	65	47
26. "	75	50	72	45	64	47
27. "	83	52	62	48	74	42
28. "	79	56	61	46	76	36
29. "	83	57	66	45	74	53
30. "	78	53	74	42	68	49

Remarks for the Month of June 1919.

This being an exceptionally warm summer, it may be of interest to our readers to receive what we have registered for the month of June, 1919, though but a late and partial report.

Highest temperature: 92 (on June 23); lowest temperature: 30 (on June 4). Average temperature: Highest —, lowest —, Rain 4.45 in.

The highest average temperature during the Month of June 1918 was 90, the lowest 29.

Because of the temporary defect of minimum thermometer, the minimum temperature of June 11, 12, and 13th were not registered. On account of other manifold attentions occasioned by the death of the late Abbot Bruno, the weather conditions of June 14, 15, and 16th were not noted.

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