# The Canadian Bank of Commerce 

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## ARMAND BROSSEAU,

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[^0]slightest hesitation, providing he obtains some support, of rushing into the street and striking down those who he deems belong to the hated bourgeoisie or professional classes. As for the manufacturer and capitalist, he would show him no mercy. He would not even give him sufficient time to make his peace with his god but strike him to earth without any compassion or compunction.
The respectable members of society who believe in orderly government, are therefore justified in taking any and all measures to protect themselves against the actions and ravings of these social renegades in the same way as they would if mad dogs were running loose.

We are living in strenuous times and heroic measures are necessary. No matter how much we may criticize the evils of society as at present constituted, those who have some knowledge of history, will admit that greater good from which the majority will benefit, can be accomplished by a rational discussion of projected and needed reforms than the irrational destruction without rhyme or reason, of those institutions and forms to which we have become slowly accustomed and which seem part and parcel of our very being.
Bolshevism is a case of nerves, but the last man in the world that the Bolshevist consults is the specialist in nervous or mental diseases. In his opinion, the only prescription that can cure him, is the contemplation of society in ruins and the owning classes looking up into the sky with staring eyes, their shirtfronts stained with their bourgeoisie blood and the wives and children of the hated better classes weeping for their lost ones and begging for a morsel of bread.
Bolshevism, according to the Russian formula, knows no mercy. It believes in wholesale slaughter. It will not tolerate opposition even from those who, claiming to be radical, suggest the adoption of means better calculated to secure recognition of Bolshevism.
The Sans Cullotes of the French revolution were mere children in comparison of their modern imitators. There was at least some chivalry occasionally shown by the Bolsheviks of the French revolution to their vietims. The average Russian is, however, a mere child and easily goes from one extreme
to another. He can one moment be influenced into offering succor and the next act as an executioner. Yet, those who are responsible for his present state think that men in other lands can be as easily dominated as the poor Russian moujik and workman is, by the Soviet leaders.
It would certainly aid the Bolsheviks very considerably if in the United States and Canada they could induce even a small percentage of the returned soldiers to help them in their propaganda. They will, no doubt, insidiously and furtively rouse the anger of the returned soldier against the government and the so called propertied classes and magnify any little grievance he may have into a mountain of protest. They will declaim with a venomous eloquence against those who feasted while the soldier fought. They will endeavour to demonstrate to the returned soldier that he simply fought to save capitalism. That his comrades in the part they took in the great war, were simply the victims of financial exploiters and that if they will only join with the oppressed proletariat, that control of the government can easily be secured and the proletarian revolution achieved.
Whilst some may be found amongst those who fought who can be seduced from that reliance upon reason which is every intelligent person's safeguard, very few amongst the men who went over to fight to save the British Empire, liberty and civilization, will so far fall from grace as to permit themselves to associate with or become inoculated with the virus of the social contagion which has spread through Russia and which "earriers'" are seeking to convey to the masses of this country.
The Canadian soldier by his willingness to lay down if need be, his life for the land of his birth or extraction, proclaimed himself the champion of those ideals, institutions, political principles and traditions in which all those of British descent and nationality take so justifiable a pride.
If liberty was worth saving from the Hun it is certainly not worth losing to the Bolshevik. There is very little difference between them. Both endeavour to control. One in the name of the King who rules by divine right aided by military satellites, and the other by the threat of death and imprison-

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## The Merchants Bank of Canada. <br> Established 1864

## Paid-up Capital Reserve Funds

$\$ 7,000,009$
Total Deposits (Sept. Ior8) $\begin{gathered}\$ 7,437,973 \\ \$ 126,000,000\end{gathered}$ Total Assets (Sept. 1918) $\$ 159,000,000$

## Savings Department

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J. A. PREZEAU, Manager


[^0]:    'Knots and Lashings" is printed by the E. R. Smith Co., Ltd. ("The News and Advocate") St. Johns, Que., Can.

