

MILITARISTS AND THE SCHOOLS

It is worth while knowing at first hand and through official channels precisely what is the aim of the militarists in Canada. The school trustees in London seem to have been in some doubt. They were perplexed by the confusion, designed or otherwise, on the part of the advocates of incipient militarism in their use of the terms "physical training," which is one thing, and "military training," which is an entirely different thing. What the militarists themselves mean is told editorially in the "official journal of the Canadian Defence League." Here it is:—

"What the Canadian Defence League has in mind as the utmost required is that the Permanent Corps of Canada shall be recruited as now by voluntary enlistment. Then, that Canada should have Universal Military Training for the whole of the male population. The first step is physical and military training for all boys while at school as a part of the school system. The second step is after school a continuation of this training up to the age of 18 in cadet corps and similar institutions under state supervision. The third step is that all youths, physically fit, beginning at the age of 18, should have in the first year, say, four months' continuous recruit training under canvas, and during the next three years an annual camp for, say, 16 days. If with this is coupled manoeuvres once in three years there will be no question of the efficiency of the Canadian militia for home defence."

"For home defence!" Defence against what? Certainly not against attack or invasion from the Atlantic, the Arctic, or the Pacific. That were a task not for the Canadian militia, but for the Canadian Naval Service—which the present government of Canada has decided not to construct or at most indefinitely to defer. Of what then are Canadians to be afraid that they must at this date adopt "Universal Military Training for the whole of the male population?"

"Physical and military training for all boys while at school as a part of the school system!" "Physical?" Yes. All the calisthenics and the gymnasium exercises and drilling together required for physical and mental development and for esprit de corps. But why "military training?" Why military uniforms and military weapons and military ideals and military motives? All these are calculated, directly and indirectly, by insistent appeal and by more insidious suggestiveness, to arouse and make dominant in a boy the slumbering warlike and half-barbaric instincts of outgrown tribal life. In a civilized nation there is no more justification for "universal" training for war than there is for "universal" training for duelling; and in Canada there is far less justification for universal military training than for "universal" training for agriculture or for industrial service or for honest and progressive everyday citizenship. If parents desire their sons trained for the Canadian militia or for the British army their desire should be respected and their purpose facilitated. But to talk of rearing in Canada a whole generation of boys trained in school and for years afterwards in military motions and movements, all uniformed to stimulate their vanity, and rifle-armed to strengthen the war spirit—one wonders if these militarist gentlemen expect thoughtful and intelligent Canadians to take them seriously. When the thing is faced openly and its significance made plain the public may make short work of some of the "Universal Military Training" features already made prominent in some public schools.—Toronto Globe.

"A REBELLION"

Any one who wants to brush up his memory on the Riel Rebellion of 1870 without being encumbered with dry matter-of-fact details, cannot do better than read F. Douglas Reville's historical romance "A Rebellion." The main incidents of the Red River uprising are portrayed in an interesting way, and are, moreover, historically accurate. Riel's atrocious treatment of the British and Canadian prisoners, whom he crowded into an upper story of a Hudson Bay building, so that there was not enough room for all to lie down,

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West Mounted Police use it, another Government proposition, against Arctic snow on permanent construction. The West Indies uses it against terrific heat and rain. You find it in Japan because it stands earthquakes. My Oshawa roofing is on the farms of South Africa. Here is ONE roof that is perfect in every climate in the world from Arctics to Tropics. World sales are my reward for high quality. Third, you have a roof that is easy to lay and lay right. You can lay it and lock it yourself. It will not leak nor burn. It is lightning-proof.

But I want you to pry into every detail of my proposition first. I want you to know it is right. I will send you this book of mine on "GEORGE SHINGLES" if you send me a post card. I have sent thousands of them out, for they have useful hints on planning barns and houses. The book is worth money to you, and if it leads you to use my Oshawa Shingles, the roof will be protecting your barn one hundred years from now.

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(Sgd.)

G. H. Pedlar

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with no ventilation, and with the thermometer ranging from 20 to 30 degrees below zero—all this is vividly set forth. The difficulties, hardships and perils encountered by the expedition under Sir Garnet, now Lord, Wolseley, in the tedious journey from Port Arthur to Fort Garry, are not forgotten and the author reproduces the General's proud message to his men after they reached what is now the city of Winnipeg, only to find that Riel had fled. Around all these events there is entwined, rather slenderly, it is true, a touching romance, replete with incidents and heart-interest. The love story begins and closes in England and the scenes of rural life

in Devonshire, described so simply and unaffectedly, present a happy contrast with many of the feverish present-day novels. A noteworthy feature of the book is the splendid series of illustrations drawn by Paul Wickson, and photographs of Main street, 1870, contrasted with the Main street of Winnipeg to-day. The book is published by the Hurley Printing Company, Brantford, Ont.

A man does not wonder at what he sees frequently, even though he be ignorant of the reason. If anything happens which he has not seen before, he calls it a prodigy.—Cicero.

Mr. Carnegie has announced that in addition to the \$150,000,000 which he has already allotted for philanthropic purposes, all the accrued surplus unprovided for in his testament will in the event of his death be devoted to similar objects.

When we ask for strength for the day, our thought is usually of that which is needed for our most important work. We should not so limit it. The grace that shall save us from evil thoughts, hasty speech, a violent temper, or censorious spirit, is as much needed as the other.