

4. The usual leaders cannot handle this situation

In 1914 the issues were so clear, our task so obvious, our aims so definite, that the problem of civilian morale could safely be left to the press, the pulpit and other moulders of public opinion. They did their job in the easiest and most direct way; by working the people up to a "Holy War" against the devils in human form who were trying to destroy us body and soul.

One direct result of this simple interpretation of the war was that we soon hated the Americans as heartily as the Germans. With issues so clear-cut, nothing but cupidity and cowardice could explain their neutrality. Another result was the treaty of Versailles, which was dictated at least in part by the need of satisfying a sadistic public opinion. We cannot this time afford either of these results.

This means that public opinion must be mobilized along less familiar lines; we need attitudes of utter determination, but we must secure them without recklessly inflaming the emotions or destroying the power to think. That can be done, but it can only be done by inspired and masterly direction from one centre. We need a government board, with one of our most far-seeing and clear-headed citizens at its head, and with wide freedom to conduct a campaign of genuine and constructive education.

*now a cabinet level advisory
by [unclear] [unclear]*

5. The Censorship is adding to the confusion

Censorship in war time is entirely necessary, but there are questions concerning its exercise in Canada which must be carefully thought out in the light of a general policy of war-education. Are Canadians supposed to know what is being said and thought in the United States, or are they not? The measures being so far taken suggest that this important question is still undecided.

Antipathy

Hitler's "peace" speech on Oct. 6th well illustrates the confusion as it affects the CBC. The speech was not carried on Canadian stations, but was listened to by many none the less. At 8 a.m. Station C.B.L. was carrying its usual news, and this was followed by the announcement that various United States senators would comment on the speech. The first senator was called on. "Well," he began---and then the music cut in.

It may be undesirable that Canadians should hear such utterances, but if so the fact must be explained to them, and explained reasonably and authoritatively. Otherwise such childish attempts at control merely defeat their purpose and arouse hostility towards the government.

Authoritarian

Already one hears constantly, "You have to tune in an American station to get any news;" already General Hugh Johnson is able to hold up Canada to his countrymen as an awful example of what will happen to them in the way of suppression of freedom if they enter the war. We badly need a clear policy on such matters, intelligently explained and consistently adhered to.

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