



The Journal of Commerce

VOL. XLIV. No. 11

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1917

Price, 10 CENTS

The Journal of Commerce

Devoted to

CANADIAN INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND FINANCE.

Published every Tuesday Morning by
The Journal of Commerce Publishing Company,
Limited.

Head Office: 35-45 St. Alexander Street, Montreal.
Telephone: Main 2662.

Toronto Office: 263 Adelaide St. West, Toronto.
Telephone: Adelaide 917.

HON. W. S. FIELDING,
President and Editor-in-Chief.

Subscription price, \$3.00 a year.

Advertising rates on application.

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Special Articles

War Profits and Industrial Enterprise.
By W. W. Swanson, Ph.D.

Business in British Columbia.

Banking and Business Affairs in the U. S.
By Elmer H. Youngman.

Conditions in the West.
By E. Cora Hind.

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Shall we be bound by a Scrap of Paper?

CANADA opened her doors to the world. She sent her agents out into the high-ways and the by-ways of Europe and invited people to come into this Dominion. Bright was the picture drawn by our agents to induce the people to come. The freedom that is usually secure under the British flag was promised to the new comers. They were invited to take up land and become Canadian citizens. Obedience to our laws, a reasonable term of residence and the taking of the oath of allegiance as British subjects were the only conditions stipulated as qualifications for full citizenship. Let the new comer comply with these conditions and he would receive his certificate of naturalization, which would give him all the rights of a British subject and a citizen of the Canadian Dominion.

He accepted the invitation. He came to Canada, complied with every requirement, and for years has been a full-fledged, law-abiding Canadian citizen. There is no charge against him. Suddenly he is to be informed, in a Kaiser-like manner, that his certificate of naturalization — that which he was solemnly assured by our Government was to be the charter of his liberties in Canada—is a mere "scrap of paper" which is entitled to no respect and gives him no protection in the rights that were promised to him when he came!

It is not a question of loyalty. We have laws to deal with disloyalty. If any man, be he a native-born Canadian or Canadian from abroad, in any way violates our laws, let him be haled before our courts and, on proof of his offence, let him be dealt with as the law provides. But this man of whom we speak has committed no disloyal act. He has fulfilled every duty of citizenship to which he has been called. Yet his highest right of citizenship, his franchise, is to be taken from him if he came into Canada any time during the last fourteen years!

Why is this Canadian citizen to be so deprived of the rights guaranteed to him? There is no mystery about it. The Government plainly say that he is among the citizens who they believe will vote against them! But who cares for the honor of Canada that was pledged to this man? Who regards a solemn certificate of naturalization, received fourteen years ago, and lived up to all this time, as anything more than a scrap of paper? Let us shut our eyes to this exhibition of Kaiserism in Canada, and shout ourselves hoarse about the Kaiser's Government treating the Belgian treaty as a scrap of paper.

Science and Industry

At a time like this, when enormous burdens have to be accepted on account of the war, it is certainly desirable that the public and their representatives in Parliament should carefully scrutinize all proposed expenditures, with a view to dispensing with any that are not of important and urgent character. Perhaps not enough attention has been paid to this side of our public affairs. Apart from the war services our appropriations are very large. A closer examination might enable us to postpone some of the proposed undertakings. The discussion that took place in the House of Commons a few days ago on certain miscellaneous appropriations was, in the main, well timed. It is satisfactory to note, however, that after some enquiry and explanations, the appropriation for the work of the Bureau of Scientific Research was cordially approved. The war emphasized our defects in that line, the progress that some other countries had made, and the need of greater effort to discover and develop the economic possibilities of the various sections of our country. That something of what may be attempted by the Bureau may prove of no practical value, as one member suggested, is probably true. It is not to be expected that all research will prove successful and profitable. But in effort of this kind, it will be a case of "Nothing venture, nothing win." In the early stages of almost all important enterprises, there must be considerable experimenting, much of which may prove quite unsuccessful. Yet it is certain that even the failures so registered are agents through which knowledge is obtained and progress is made. So it may be with the experimental work that is being carried on by Dr. MacCallum and his volunteer staff of scientists. It will be strange indeed if out of their researches does not spring a larger knowledge of the useful purposes to which the very numerous natural products of Canada may be applied.

A Crisis in Paris

ONLY a little while ago a political crisis in France was a frequent event. French Governments were notoriously unstable. Sometimes events of importance led to the fall of a Ministry. More frequently a small matter produced a heated debate, in which want of confidence was exhibited, and the Cabinet resigned. Matters which under our British Parliamentary system would cause but a momentary flurry were magnified in the French Chamber of Deputies into large issues on which the Chamber broke away from the Government. The war has had a remarkably steadying effect in French politics. The patriotism of the French nation, manifested in so