

A Doukhobour woman spinning flax

It is no little feat to make out a thousand meals a year without the aid of meat and fish yet the Doukhobour housewife succeeds so well that for strength and endurance it is well known in the West that the Doukhobour working on railroad construction or in land-clearing gangs outworks all others of whatever nationality.

The Doukhobour will not eat meat because he deems all life sacred. It is for this reason he conscientiously objects to war. Believing that the spirit of Christ dwells in all men how could he take life? His beliefs in this respect are bona fide, having nothing whatever to do with the present war. He was "a conscientious objector" back in Russia under the Romanovs two centuries ago. And all through the years prior to coming to Canada endured persecutions, imprisonment, loss of property, banishment to Siberia, working in the chain-gang and mine rather than do military service.

Peter Veregin, leader and adviser of this interesting people, was a convict to Siberia, serving his time there, when through the intercession of the Czarina and the assistance of Count Tolstoi, Aylmer Maude, the Quakers of Philadelphia, the Canadian Gov-