

France and Japan

As a fitting example of the sound views held upon the economic aspect of war in countries where the sense of responsibility prevails, Canadians may well meditate on the attitude taken by the most authoritative journal in France upon the intervention of Japan in the European conflict. According to a dispatch published in the *Montreal Gazette*, on the 14th of December, *Le Temps* "intimates with caution that Japan's needs are mainly financial, since she requires immense sums for the development of China to which her attention is directed since her failure to obtain an entry into more distant markets."

By the military intervention of Japan on the battlefields of Europe, France would have more to gain than any of the nations allied against Germany. Yet the most thoughtful Frenchmen, who know that the credit of their country would be seriously affected by a financial crisis in Japan, would rather see her stay at home. What sensible Canadian would dare assert that Canada's military intervention in Europe can equal what Japan's would be, or that Canada running bankrupt would hurt less the credit and strength of the United Kingdom than Japan's financial stress can affect the money power of France?

To keep up the credit and the prosperity of Canada, first, for the sake of Canada, and, secondly, for the benefit of Great Britain and her allies, ought to be the main object of every level headed and truly patriotic Canadian.

It is but a few weeks since one of the most authoritative London journals, the *Westminster Gazette*, was obliged to remind us that we could render better service to the Motherland and the Empire by growing wheat than by raising soldiers. (*)

speech, is but a synopsis of all that has appeared in LE DEVOIR since the outbreak of the war. It is to be hoped that the sensible and truly patriotic views of the Finance Minister will prevail over the bankruptcy program of the Solicitor General.

(*) "A good many Canadian farmers find it difficult to leave their farms for the front. They may rest assured that by staying in Canada and growing wheat for us in 1915, they will perform a very real service to the Empire".—"Westminster Gazette", quoted in the *Montreal "Star"*, Oct. 9th, 1915).