

The Weekly Ontario

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PATRIOTISM AND PRODUCTION.

When Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of fairs for Ontario, comes to Tweed, on Tuesday, Feb. 9, to open the campaign in behalf of "Patriotism and Production," he will be well advised if he proceeds along different lines from those taken in his addresses delivered before the convention of the Central Ontario Fairs Association held in Belleville on Thursday of last week. In his afternoon speech, Mr. Wilson intimated that the farming community could best demonstrate its patriotism in the present crisis by sticking to the farm and growing more wheat. The active defence of the Empire he would leave to the young men of the towns and cities. The unemployed, he would allow to starve if they refused to volunteer. In his address at the banquet in the evening, Mr. Wilson is reported to have said: "The unemployed in the cities are now a burden on the State. They should be told 'we will look after your families, now go to the front for King and Country or starve.'"

The Ontario holds that in the last analysis it is just as much the business of the farming community to defend our country and our Empire, as of any other class. We do not think that exhortations should be addressed to farmers or to any one else at the present time with a view to inducing them to stay at home and not volunteer for the greatest duty that a man can perform—the defence of his home and his country's honor. Surely the difficulties of our recruiting officers are sufficiently great at the present time without having them unnecessarily augmented in this way.

Instead of telling the farmers to leave to the unemployed the defence of Canada, Mr. J. Lockie Wilson would be rendering a more patriotic service if he exhorted the agricultural sections to send every available man to the front.

What would have been the answer of Col. William Ketcheson had he heard an appeal to the farmers of Upper Canada to stay at home and grow more wheat when the war trumpet sounded in the summer of 1812? What this old patriot actually did do is best told in the simple narrative contained in "Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte."

In recording the history of the Ketcheson family it says,—

"When the War of 1812 broke out, William, the eldest of the family, went to his brother Thomas who was cutting underbrush on lot fifteen in the Fifth Concession of Sidney, and told him to drop the brushhook and get his musket. 'Four of the brothers went to Kingston and served during the war. Elijah, the youngest although only seventeen years old was promoted to sergeant's rank.'"

Thomas Ketcheson didn't go on cutting the underbrush, on the assumption that it was more important to prepare his ground for the next season's crop. He instantly dropped the implement of peace, and took up the weapon of war. And the seventeen-year-old boy, Elijah, who afterwards became Colonel Elijah, was not too absorbed in hockey and pool-playing to come forward of his own volition and offer himself as a defender of his country. In a few weeks we hear of Sergeant Elijah making the fifty-mile journey back from Kingston to Belleville "in pursuit of a deserter."

That was the spirit that prevailed along the shores of the Bay of Quinte in the year 1812. That was the spirit that saved Canada to the Empire and to British connection.

Several of the descendants of Colonel William Ketcheson were present at the meeting on Thursday afternoon. We have been wondering what they thought of the appeal issued in 1915 to leave the defence of Canada to the unemployed.

We do know that Col. William G. Ketcheson, the present commanding officer of the Forty-ninth regiment and a grandson of Col. Elijah Ketcheson has been working almost day and night since the beginning of the war to see that the full quota of volunteers should go forward from this rural regiment. From farm, and from village there has been a fine response, but there are still more men required, and Col. Ketcheson's work will not be promoted by unequalled pleas to the young men to stay on the farm and demonstrate their patriotism by producing bigger crops.

We have not one word to say against this "Patriotism and Production" campaign. It is an eminently proper thing to do. But Production should not interfere with Patriotism or kill Patriotism. The first duty of those capable of bearing arms is to defend the country.

If the farmer begs off from military service on the plea of Production, the manufacturer who makes the farmer's implements and his clothing, the railroad worker who takes the farmer's goods to the place of export, the grain-buyer, the cattle-dealer, the merchant and all the other links in the great commercial chain, could enter a similar excuse and say they were quite as essential to the country's system of production as the farmer. The modern industrial fabric is very complex in its structure, and no class or section can, under modern conditions, live entirely unto itself.

We agree with Mr. Wilson when he says that labor is scarce on the farms, that too many of the young men from the rural sections have gone into the cities. We also admit that owing to that exodus it is quite reasonable to expect the urban communities to furnish a larger number of recruits than similar units of population in the country. But where a farmer has half-a-dozen stalwart sons, and two or three of them are filled with zeal to serve the Empire at the battle-front, we do not think it is the part of patriotism to tell these boys to remain at home and rear a bigger pen of bacon hogs the coming summer.

The places of such young farmer volunteers

will eventually be taken by the unemployed of the cities. Depend upon it, many of those who have foolishly flocked into the city to starve in a genteel manner, will after a time meander back to the land where there is at least enough to eat, even if there are no moving pictures at night.

And let us be fair to the unemployed. They have furnished a very large proportion of the volunteers who have already enlisted. Probably a considerable majority of the remainder are past military age or are physically unfit. And, besides, we have no right to say to a bricklayer who is temporarily out of work that he MUST go to war, any more than we have a right to say the same thing to a farmer, or to a railroad magnate. Canada has not yet adopted conscription, but when she does it will probably apply to all classes in the community.

The defence of Canada and of British institutions should be placed before the people as a privilege rather than a disagreeable duty to be forced upon unwilling recruits. It is a source of congratulation that many thousands in this dominion have already so regarded it, and tens of thousands more will flock to the colors as soon as they are brought to realize the need.

The defence of our young nation is alike the duty, the business and the privilege of farmers, members of parliament, clergymen, lawyers, day laborers, newspaper editors, gentlemen of leisure and professional sports. No class or section can properly say to another, "This war is not our business but yours." Henri Bourassa is talking that way to the French Canadians, but if Henri Bourassa lived in Germany, and said the things that he has been repeating here, he would long ago have been shot as a traitor. In Canada he goes on his way unmolested, and by his continuous preaching to the French-Canadians that the war is none of their business he renders more effective aid to the German cause than a dozen Dernburgs could do.

Let us have greater production on the farms and more skill applied to the farms this year than we have ever had before. And let us have an earnest campaign among the unemployed, who are not available for military service, to induce them to return to the country districts where there will be work in abundance, and food, and warmth, and room for the children to grow up intelligent and strong, in an environment such as God intended them to have. But let us not attempt to deprive the patriotic-spirited Elijah Ketchesons of the year 1915 of their active part in this fight for freedom, by exhorting them to stick to the plough and leave to others the fighting.

The yeomanry of England have stood at the forefront on a thousand battle-fields, from Ethandune to Waterloo and from Waterloo to Paardeburg. Just five centuries ago this year at Harfleur, King Henry the Fifth addressed the yeomanry, of which his army was almost altogether composed, in such words as these,—

"And you, good yeomen, Whose limbs were made in England, show us here The mettle of your pasture; let us swear That you are worth your breeding; which I doubt not; For there is none of you so mean and base That hath not noble lustre in his eyes. I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips, Straining upon the start."

The yeomanry of Canada are just as loyal to the old flag as the yeomen of England, and will probably give quite as good an account of themselves, before this titanic conflict is ended. We may rest assured that they will not all be satisfied with quietly stopping at home and growing wheat when there is trouble abroad. We believe that every man that in any way be spared will be sent to the front, and that those who are compelled to remain behind will work just a little harder and try to make up for the gaps in their lines.

That is the part of true Patriotism, and, if we all work loyally together, Production will not fail.

FORTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE.

Mr. William Mackintosh has resigned his position as inspector of public schools after forty-one years of continuous service. Two generations have passed into and out of the schools of what is now called Centre Hastings and have known no other inspector.

Mr. Mackintosh has amply earned the rest and leisure time that will now be his. His inspectorate until very recent years included all of what now composes Centre and North Hastings with the exception of the township of Hungerford and the village of Tweed. It comprised twenty townships and four incorporated villages. To travel from the southern to the northern end meant a journey nearly as long as from Belleville to Toronto. To reach all the isolated schools in the riding meant travelling over roads, some of them of unimaginably bad quality, for perhaps a thousand miles. This thousand-mile journey had to be made twice a year. No one beside himself can have any adequate idea of the self-sacrificing labors that he has put forth to secure for this great territory, one fourth as large as the kingdom of Belgium, a system of schools that would be second to none in the province. He never spared himself. He never slighted his work. Regardless of weather conditions, or of his own physical comfort, he came and he went, everywhere holding up the highest ideals before his teachers, everywhere preaching the doctrine of greater efficiency, everywhere stimulating the strong to higher achievement, and affording to the weak a sense of support and encouragement.

He needs no testimonial. His work, extending over four decades carries its own best recommendation and benediction.

The best wishes of a multitude of friends

will accompany him upon his retirement from the position he has so honorably filled, and the hope will be general that he may be spared many years to enjoy the period of relief from the over-strenuous duties of a career of remarkable activity.

WORK FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

Sir Richard McBride has a method of dealing with the unemployed in British Columbia which is in every way more philanthropic, workable and enticing than the plan proposed here last Thursday by Mr. J. Lockie Wilson. Mr. Wilson would hold a kind of Hobson's choice up before the out-of-workers—that is he would have them either enlist or starve.

The trouble with the Wilson proposal is that in many cases there would not be a willing response. Some of the unemployed have no taste for the fighting game, and would have to be forced into it. Others could not well go owing to home ties and responsibilities. Others again are too old, or could not measure up to the physical requirements.

Sir Richard's scheme avoids all these difficulties and pitfalls. The unemployed take to it like a duck to a frog-pond.

The McBride idea is simplicity itself. British Columbia, as everybody knows has in recent years been passing through the most gigantic saturnalia of frenzied financing, and glit-edge gambling, that the civilized world has ever seen. Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary and Edmonton all suffered from attacks more or less severe, but to see the real goods you had to go to Vancouver.

Railroad promoters, franchise hunters, mining magnates, real estate robbers, smooth gamblers, and a dozen other kinds of artists who would go through your pockets while you waited, all flourished in, around, and about Vancouver as though it were their native home.

Sir Richard received everybody with an open hand, and British Columbia's vast natural resources were dealt out to his "friends" and the "boys" with a speed and lavishness that has never been equalled any place else on earth.

But the end had to come some time. At length there was nothing more to give away. The grand gamble grew groggy and collapsed. Multitudes of those who had actively taken part in the game, and lost, were penniless and without a home. As is always the case, multitudes of others who had taken no part, and were in no way responsible suffered just as severely and were driven out to face the cold charity of the world.

Many months ago the problem of the unemployed in British Columbia overshadowed every other interest. Hungry crowds were clamoring for bread.

And then, like a beacon of hope out of the darkness, came the war. It did not take a man possessing the statesmanlike acumen of Sir Richard McBride long to realize and seize upon a first-class opportunity. British Columbia was exposed to the danger of being raided by the German fleet upon the Pacific, and, like the rest of Canada, had to take into account the German peril from the United States.

Sir Richard at once secured permission from the Department of Militia at Ottawa and began to enroll British Columbia's army of unemployed into an army of defence. Every man was to receive the pay of a soldier on regular service. There was only about one chance in a thousand that any of the recruits would ever smell powder, and age or physical fitness did not count, for the work of fighting the German invaders on the British Columbia coast was not arduous.

The German cruisers have long since been wiped off the surface of the Pacific, but British Columbia still retains its formidable standing army. There remains the menace of a German-American invasion.

And that reminds us that eastern Canada is exposed in the same manner only in a far more formidable degree. We are contiguous to the great British-hating German populations in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, and Rochester.

Let British Columbia retain its standing army, but let us also have one in the east. That it only fair. Then our unemployed could be taken care of under the guise of patriotism, and no forcing would be required to secure recruits. Let it be given out that this home guard would not have to do anything more strenuous than to fight German-Americans, and the organization would speedily become more popular than an Orange lodge in a settlement of Belfast Irishmen.

THE CONTRAST.

The recent exhibition of German "frightfulness" in bombarding, from the air, sleeping villages on the east coast of England, and slaughtering innocent men and women, has revolted the world. But, after all, this outrage upon civilization is merely part of the German plan, which is exemplified also in the shocking brutality of the Germans toward British prisoners, who were being transported from the battle-front to the detention camps, and in the official report issued by the Belgian Legation in London, which told of the atrocities and outrages committed against Catholic clergymen in Belgium by the invaders.

A writer in the Nineteenth Century and After quotes one, whose opinions have had

a determining influence on German military ethics, as saying:

"Any war between the great Western Powers at the present day can now only be a life or death struggle. No considerations of humanity, of justice, of treaty obligations, will interfere with its one great object, which will be to annihilate the enemy's power of resistance. All methods are fair where war is no longer a mere duel, but a death grapple in which, just as teeth and nails are used between individuals, what is equivalent to them is used between nations."

Here is a significant passage from The German War Manual for the guidance of officers:

"A WAR CONDUCTED WITH ENERGY CANNOT BE CONFINED TO ATTACKING THE COMBATANTS OF THE ENEMY AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS. IT MUST BE DIRECTED TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WHOLE OF ITS INTELLECTUAL AND MATERIAL RESOURCES."

The writer in The Nineteenth Century says the destruction of the "material resources of a country" would include the effective stoppage, by bombardment or otherwise, of all its factories and means of production, the burning of its crops, the destruction, where not available for utilization for further destruction, of its railways, rolling-stock, ports, harbors and canals, the sinking of its ships and barges, the flooding of its mines and the appropriation or destruction of all means of subsistence, food and raw material, beasts of burden and traction. All these things the Prussian hosts have done to unoffending Belgium.

The destruction of a country's "intellectual resources" would

"include terrorizing the population, spreading alarming rumors of possible vengeance, statements, false or true, as to shooting harmless civilians, rape, child murder, and so on; the dropping of bombs from aircraft on a crowded city on any pretext whatever, such, for instance, as the mere presence of a sentinel at the entrance to a public building; firing heavy artillery for the purpose of creating a panic—in fact, the employment of every possible method of creating a sense of the hopelessness of resistance."

These outrages have all been practised throughout Belgium, and in France and threatened in England. The German War Manual adds "humane considerations—that is the sparing of human life and property—can only come into play in so far as the nature and object of the war permit."

Now consider the contrast afforded by the instructions given by Lord Kitchener to soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force on the eve of their departure for the battlefields in France and Belgium:

"You are ordered abroad as a soldier of the King to help our French comrades against the invasion of a common enemy. You have to perform a task which will need your courage, your energy, your patience. Remember that the honor of the British Army depends on your individual conduct."

"It will be your duty not only to set an example of discipline and perfect steadiness under fire, but also to maintain the most friendly relations with those whom you are helping in the struggle."

"The operations in which you are engaged will, for the most part, take place in a friendly country, and you can do your own country no better service than in showing yourself in France and Belgium in the true character of a British soldier."

"Be invariably courteous, considerate and kind. Never do anything likely to injure or destroy property, and always look upon looting as a disgraceful act. You are sure to meet with a welcome and to be trusted; your conduct must justify that welcome and that trust."

"Your duty cannot be done unless your health is sound. So keep constantly on your guard against excesses. In this new experience you may find temptations, both in wine and women. You must entirely resist both temptations, and, while treating all women with perfect courtesy, you should avoid any intimacy."

Do your duty bravely. "Fear God."

"Honor the King."

This is the injunction to an army to wage war according to civilized, humane methods as opposed to sheer barbarism of the Huns. The contrast runs right through the operations on land, on sea, and in the air. In point of fact, the achievements of the British airmen, notably in their attacks on the Zeppelin sheds at Düsseldorf and Friedrichshaven, and also in their attack on the German ships at their Wilhelmshaven base are far more brilliant in daring and execution than the bomb dropping exploits of the German baby-killers at Yarmouth and other peaceful villages in England. They did not find it necessary to hurl their instruments of destruction upon sleeping non-combatants. Their attack was aimed at the fighting forces of the enemy. This is why the world applauds the chivalry of the British way, prays for the success of the Allied arms, and denounces "this last brutal stroke" of Prussian militarism.

Other Editors' Opinions

PNEUMONIA WARNINGS.

The prevention of pneumonia is one of the subjects that cannot too often be discussed. The first thing to remember is that pneumonia is not caused by cold weather, but in spite of it. That it is the most prevalent and the most fatal of winter diseases is due to the fact that the resisting power of many people is reduced during winter. Pneumonia is transmitted by a germ. This germ is powerless to affect normal healthy people. But when it attacks a person whose vitality is below normal—whether from imprudent living, from overwork, lack of fresh air—it is capable of incalculable harm. Bodily fitness is the surest safeguard against pneumonia, and to attain bodily fitness one must have proper nourishment, exercise, and fresh air and must avoid excesses of all kinds. People who crowd themselves indoors, keeping warm at the expense of fresh air, gradually reduce their resisting power. Statistics show that this error is a very common one, as every cold spell is followed by a rapid increase of pneumonia cases.

—Philadelphia Press.

HOW "KULTUR" MULTIPLIES.

How many Germans are there in the United States? When the war started the German-American agitators began to talk modestly about 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 Germans and people of German descent in this country. The figures rose rapidly. In September, 1914, they had grown to 14,000,000. A month ago the German ambassador referred touchingly to the 20,000,000 German and German-American citizens in this country. Hermann Ridder, the Teutonic howitzer of New York, capped this proposition two weeks ago with the claim of 25,000,000. Two weeks ago Congressman Bartholdt, in a speech to the House, apologizing for being able to be so generous to the German cause, declared that one-third of the people of the United States had German blood in their veins. If this thing keeps on we shall have a record of 97-1-2 of Kultur before we know it. Hech der Arithmetik!

—Providence Journal.

THAT CHANT OF HATE.

"To hate," says Chancellor von Bethmann-Holweg, "is not a German trait; the vendetta belongs to the Latin races." Yet the Latins take the opposite view; they admit the superiority of efficiency and industry of Northerners, but hold that they are less kind-hearted and more tenacious of ill-will. In this connection it should be noted that the German literature was praised for its supremacy in the expression of hate. In his scholarly work, "The Mediaeval Mind," Dr. Henry Osborn Taylor wrote of the "unforgotten" "Not much love in this tale only hate may show the passionate power of the hating soul. The centuries have raised to high relief the elemental Teutonic qualities of hate, greed, courage and devotion. The professors of literature will not agree with the German Chancellor that 'to hate' is not a German trait."

—Springfield Republican.

GERMAN CULTURE.

The majority of Germans in Canada and Southern Germany and Austria are lovable people. Even the professors of Germany, or a large portion of them, have what might be called winning manners. They have, however, sublime confidence in their own culture and absolute contempt for the scientific attainments of all other countries, who according to their ideas are devoid of culture. They have for many long years held a fixed opinion that their great Kaiser, working under the inspiration of the Almighty, was justified in pounding their culture into other "half-civilized countries" by means of the heavy artillery of his invincible army. The pious Kaiser is now very much interested in the imperfectly civilized Britishers.

This German culture has had great influence in educational institutions, especially in the United States and Canada, and to some extent in Great Britain. About forty years ago certain teachers in the universities of the United States were greatly impressed with "German methods." There has been much discussion as to the comparative value of "German methods" and "English methods" of teaching. During these forty years many of the universities of the United States adopted largely the so-called German methods. This German fever extended to Canada about thirty years ago. There was a considerable amount of confusion about these two methods, and a certain amount of absurdity entered into the discussions. The general tendency, however in many teaching institutions was to exalt the scientific side and neglect the practical application of science to actual practice.

The University of Toronto has for the last 25 years been developing German ideas and is now the most prominent university in this continent.—Canadian Practitioner and Review.

MANY MORE SHOULD COME.

Many men are nobly rallying to the colors, and showing that they are possessed of the energy and courage that fired their ancestors. Notwithstanding the fact that the recruiting officers are fast busy, still it is generally conceded that there are many men in both town and country who should be enlisting. Why do they hesitate and hold back? It is the action of such lovers of ease and craven necessity.

—Port Hope Times.

If one be troubled with corns and warts, he will find in Holloway's Corn Cure an application that will entirely relieve suffering.

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