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might very well place at the disposal of the Hague Tribunal enough ships and soldiers to enforce international law. But the purpose of the great navies, so far from fulfilling merely a police function, is to settle disputes between nations by brute force and the power of might without any regard as to the right or wrong involved.

Politics and the Pulpit

"What is Canada's duty at the present time? The naval question to be sure, has become a political one, but is that fact going to prevent the pulpit from making any reference to it whatsoever? There is no word in the Bible telling me to keep out of politics. The church may as well shut up shop if we are not to discuss anything that becomes a party question, and the fact that both political parties in Canada are making more or less of a football out of the naval policy should not prevent the Christian church from making itself heard in no uncertain sound. We ought to do something to help England, is the position taken by a large proportion of Canadians. If any of you really want to help England there are nobler and better ways than contributing \$35,000,000 towards an increase in naval power. Britain has other problems to face, such as that of poverty, of old age pensions, of education and of social and moral reforms.

How Canada's Acts Will Be Construed

"Further, this proposed contribution will not help, anyway. Just think for a moment. Where shall we get the money? From wealthy Englishmen who already own most of the land over there and who will probably grind the poorer people all the harder in consequence of sending an additional amount of money out of the country. Canada's action, moreover, will be construed by the Pan-German school as a proof of their contention that the British Empire is marshalling all its forces to crush Germany, and the Germanic people of Europe, Austrians, Swiss, Belgians and Dutch. The effect in Germany will probably be only to stimulate their Dreadnought building, since an influential section of the press and of the ruling classes are firmly convinced that contributions from the outlying nations of the British Empire can only mean sinister designs upon the Fatherland.

Both Party Policies Obnoxious

"I do not propose to discuss in detail the two programs submitted by the parties at Ottawa during the past few weeks. The Borden plan appears to be giving cash contributions to the Motherland as they are needed. In my humble opinion the \$35,000,000 had better be thrown into the Atlantic, so far as doing any good is concerned. The Laurier program of building a Canadian navy, and establishing navy yards and the resulting vested interests in this country, appears to be the more serious

proposal of the two. 'But they will provide work in Canada,' you say. Every man you take out of productive employment and put into an uneconomic industry, such as the manufacture of warships or death-dealing engines of war, by so much you will harm our country. Useless work is never a blessing. If you contend that it is, why do you not put me in a palace as your minister, where I could keep a hundred gardeners and forty cooks and fifty chamberlains, thus giving employment to a great many people? The folly of this appears at a glance. You know that you would only have to work all the harder to keep up such an establishment. The productive work alone supports the burden of unproductive industry. Now since the Conservatives may adopt the Liberal plan of a Canadian navy as an ultimate solution, I find both party programs equally obnoxious.

Grain Growers at Brandon

"I am glad that the labor men and the Grain Growers, the two main classes of productive citizens in this country, have taken their stand against this wasteful war policy. One of the greatest blows ever struck for peace was when the Grain Growers of Manitoba, at their annual convention in Brandon last week, passed with cheers a strong resolution denouncing the naval plans of both parties, with only five dissenting votes out of over 500.

"So far we have spoken only of our loss through either of these plans being adopted and in this sense the argument has been on a selfish or material plane. But there is a higher motive than self-interest which should lead us toward peace at the present moment. Is there one code of ethics for the individual and another code for the nation? There is something better even than Imperialism—the brotherhood of man. Does not taking up the cross and following the Master apply as much to a nation as to an individual? I believe if Britain stopped navy-building altogether and turned her energies towards the welfare of her own people and of other nations, she would run no risk whatsoever in having no Dreadnoughts. An action like that would so strengthen the peace parties of other nations, and nowhere is the peace party stronger than in Germany, that the Great Powers would be forced by their own people to quit the mad race of militarism. But even if there were risk in following the way of peace, I believe that should be incurred in the interest of the common people rather than crushing them into the dust by this ever more oppressive burden of the modern armed peace.

Where Does Christian Church Stand?

"Where do the churches stand on this question? Outsiders are asking that question with renewed interest. They see the churches every now and then raising a great row over comparatively little things such as selling candy and

ice cream on Sunday, yet when a great moral crisis confronts the nation the Christian Church appears to be silent. Mind, I am not in favor of the Sunday sale of those things—These things ye ought to have done and not left the others undone. But I contend that it is of little matter compared to the great question of peace or war now facing Canada. The Christian Church stands for peace between nations, peace between man and his fellowmen, peace between man and his God, and if the Church does its duty at the present crisis in Canada, we shall hasten the day when wars and rumors of war shall have forever ceased."

WHAT BALKAN WAR HAS ALREADY COST

London, Dec. 28.—One hundred and fifty-two millions, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars is the cost of the Balkan war up to date, according to statistics compiled by the Economist.

These staggering figures, the journal states, represent the sum that has been lost during the actual fighting and that without reckoning in the wounded and the dead. "We should fear," adds the Economist, "that Bulgaria must have lost in this way, at least 50,000 of its manhood and Turkey perhaps 100,000. If the cost of mobilization and the expenses which run on during the armistice were added, the actual financial deficit caused by the war to the five states might already run up to \$175,000,000."

These figures which, if anything, probably are under the mark, are arrived at as follows by the journal which furnishes them:

Taking the average cost of one man at \$2.50 a day, the total expenditure is worked out as follows:

	Men.	Actual War.	Cost
Bulgaria	300,000	47	\$35,250,000
Servia	200,000	37	23,500,000
Greece	150,000	64	24,000,000
Montenegro	40,000	56	5,600,000
Turkey	400,000	64	64,000,000
Total	1,000,000		\$152,350,000

But even the colossal figures arrived at by adding to this sum the costs of mobilization and the interim expenses during the armistice, does not give a comprehensive view of the whole financial cost entailed by the war. "Partial mobilization in Austria-Hungary," he declares, "is costing the country about \$250,000 per day above the normal expenses for the army and navy and a vote of from sixty to eighty million dollars is to be asked for to meet this. In addition, grievous suffering is being caused to the wives and families of the men who have been called up. We suppose that a somewhat similar financial loss is being incurred by Russia. To complete the picture, we should have to take into consideration the financial cost of the credit troubles to which merchants and business men have been subjected during the past two months. In Austria and

southeastern Europe a disastrous slump has occurred, and business failures have become exceptionally numerous.

"Financiers and investors," the writer concludes, "must expect in the coming year loans totalling in all perhaps \$400,000,000 to repair the losses caused by war and mobilization in the five states, as well as in Russia, Austria and Italy."

LABOR MEN OPPOSE NAVAL POLICY

London, Jan. 20.—The Daily Citizen (Labor) states that the Parliamentary Labor party is giving consideration to the Canadian Government's proposed naval policy, with a view to united action at the proper time.

In the same issue appears a letter from J. C. Walters, written in behalf of the executive of the Trades and Labor Congress, in which he seeks to dispel "the illusion that the offer represents the united sentiment of Canadians."

The writer says that "organized labor in the Dominion is solidly against the spread of jingoism and the armaments craze. Canada's present offer is simply a party move. Unfortunately, Canadian labor men have not a direct voice in the Dominion Parliament. If they had, their answer would be made in no uncertain tones."

The letter concludes: "With the ripe experience acquired by the Labor group in the British House, not alone in domestic affairs, but in the world's politics, would it not be well to give us in Canada the benefit of your experience by advising how we can best co-operate with you in maintaining the world's peace? No more practical way suggests itself to us than to co-operate closely with our working comrades in the Mother Country."

GRAIN GROWERS AND SUFFRAGE

The following resolution was passed by a unanimous standing vote at the Manitoba Grain Growers' Convention, following an address by Mrs. A. V. Thomas, president of the Political Equality League:

Moved by R. McKenzie, seconded by Peter Wright: That the convention reaffirm the attitude on Woman Suffrage which was taken by our last annual convention and direct our central executive to co-operate with the Political Equality League to further the interests of Woman's Suffrage.

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