

Canada - If Germany Should Win

Before the Treaty of Paris in 1763 there was a lively discussion, "a paper war," which began in 1760 and which was carried on in the home land, and in America, as to whether Canada or the Island of Guadeloupe should be kept by England when peace was made with France, providing a choice was necessary. By that treaty Canada was retained and since that time it has been a British Colony.

From 1763 until 1841 the settled portions of Canada were governed as a Colony, having a more or less unsatisfactory parliament of the people from about the year 1791. In 1841 responsible government was introduced. In 1867, by the British North America Act, the Confederation of the Provinces was brought about and Canada became a self-governing country. The last of the British regular troops, except a few for the purpose of instruction, were withdrawn from Canada in 1870. It is true we are a part of the British Empire, one of Britain's colonies, but one which Britain has seen fit to trust to govern herself, and up to the present time we have given no occasion for alarm by the manner in which we have done the work. We are to-day proud of the fact that we are a British Colony, proud that we can help the motherland in her European struggles and we believe that she is proud of us.

What would be our position should Germany win in the present war and Canada become a German Colony? This is a question which it is difficult to answer. In considering it we shall have to remember that at the present time Germany has no so-called self-governing colonies, that Germany until very recent years has done no colonization work and that she has used her colonies as a place to settle German emigrants and has kept them under direct military, civil and economic control from Berlin.

The year 1884 is an important one in the history of German colonization. During the years just previous, Bismark and William I. did not deem it advisable to assume the responsibility of administration, and the older form of British colonization, by means of chartered companies, was the one used by Germany in her meagre attempts at this kind of work. The only responsibility of the Imperial Government was a guarantee of protection from foreign aggression. These territories were officially known as Protectorates and were not actually incorporated into the Empire.

In the year above mentioned Germany began to acquire possessions under a colonial policy and since that time she has added to her Empire every foot of land she could. The chartered companies system did not prove satisfactory and she began to purchase the rights of these companies, until in 1889, she completed the work, and since that date all have been under the direct administration of the Empire. Her Colonial office was established in 1907, only seven years ago.

One point in connection with this subject of which we must not lose sight is the fact that Germany's great desire for colonial expansion is to provide a place to locate her surplus population and to secure a market for her surplus manufacturers. Her industrial development during recent years has been enormous and the increase in her exports of manu-