

truly said by the genial Chancellor of the Exchequer. That they are won with wheat sheaves still more than with gold, he might well have added, — had he not meant, of course, that with her enormous wealth and reserve of gold, Great Britain is well able to purchase corn and other foodstuffs.

There is something ludicrous and painful at the same time in contrasting the ineffectiveness of war preparation in Canada with the practical and effective methods followed in the countries of Europe.

In France and England, — not to speak of Germany where it was carried to the point of perfection —, no single regiment was put on foot, no man-of-war despatched for action, before the most elaborate and effective measures had been adopted and put into execution in order to maintain the credit of the country and its financial institutions, to provide for the storing of foodstuffs, to prevent the cornering of food and the rise of prices, to keep up the trade and industries of the country, and even to profit by the exclusion of German trade from foreign markets.

In this peaceful, mercantile and rural community, apart from a few measures of finance, nothing has been done, except a tremendous display of wordy patriotism, with a view to enlisting as many men as possible, fit or unfit for warfare.

The determination of the Canadian Government, as enunciated in Winnipeg by the Solicitor General, is to bankrupt Canada to save the Empire. Considering that practically all the creditors of Canada are London bankers, and that the British government is most anxious to maintain the credit of the United Kingdom, the execution of that *patriotic* program would hardly contribute to the strength, glory and prestige of the Empire. (*)

(*) In his address above referred to, Mr. White has fortunately sounded a different note:—"In order, said he, to meet our interest payments abroad, sustain our share of the burden of the war and promote to the greatest possible degree prosperity throughout the Dominion, it is the duty of all Canadian citizens to co-operate in producing as much as possible of what can be used or sold. For Canada at this juncture the watchword of the hour should be: PRODUCTION, PRODUCTION, and again PRODUCTION".

Were I not afraid of compromising the Finance Minister in the eyes of 'loyal patriots', I might say that this conclusion, and most of the Minister's

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