

THE LOGICAL ENDING OF ALL WAR

A Christmas Message to the People of Canada from Nellie L. McClung

(Specially written for "The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer")

I DON'T suppose I could start an argument, if I state casually that there is something wrong with the world.

We see it more since the war which has shed a strong light on our social and national and international life; just as we see the need for spring housecleaning, when the strong, bright sun of spring pours in the windows, revealing the spots in the carpet and the draggled grayness of the hall curtains.

The war has speeded up the camera of life, and given us a clearer vision of what is going on, like the moving pictures which show us in a few seconds the development of the seed into a full-grown plant. The process was just the same, in Nature's slow way, but we could not get a grasp of it until we saw the hastened picture.

We are appalled by the wastage of war, and yet there has been going on a steady process of waste all these long, weary years, almost unnoticed because it was spread out and diffused.

Talk about destruction of property! To begin at the bottom—which is the right way to begin everything—with the possible exception of digging a well. The Conservation of Forests Committee report that twenty-two times as much timber was burnt last year as was used!

Talk about waste of life! There have been more children under five years of age who have died since the war began than there have been men slain in battle!

We cry out in horror over the women and children killed by zeppelins in England and yet there raises its head in very London the iniquitous Liquor Traffic which kills more women and children in one month than all the zeppelins that have been made!

Thinking of these things, and many others, I believe it is no hysterical exaggeration to say there was something wrong with the world, even before the war.

It isn't lack of cleverness. Not at all—we do not even need to explain or prove that. We can take the minutes as read and pass on!

It is not lack of determination, resourcefulness, executive ability, forcefulness. It lies deeper than all these things.

What is wrong with the world is a lack of

spirituality, and it took a war to show it to us. We all know what's wrong with Germany. That's easy. The German folks have been led away by false teachers and have grown materialistic and godless.

It isn't quite so easy to diagnose our own case. We're nearer ourselves, and nearness does not always mean clearness of vision! And besides, we are all disposed to be generous to a fault—when it is our own!

But we cannot evade the question any

of good cheer and hope to the boys who go out and go over.

Ideas are epidemic, good as well as bad. They go from one mind to another, and now in this fourth year of the war, there is a troubling of the waters that is full of healing.

We are tired of hatred, suspicions, misunderstandings, slanders, grouches—meaningless phrases, and bumptiousness. We want something simple, and solid, and comforting. And it is coming. Anything comes when enough people want it!

Out of the carnage and waste of war is coming a new sense of individual responsibility. People are thinking of it, and talking of it. It finds expression in the pamphlets which the American airmen have been dropping over the lines to the Germans, telling them that the American people are not the enemies of the German people, but only of the military autocracy which threatens the peace of the whole world.

The leaflets go on to tell the Germans that if they will throw off the Kaiser's yoke and be willing to form a republic, the allied nations will help them to reconstruct their country. If they are in earnest, and will come over, with the pass word "Republic," they will not be treated as prisoners, and the Germans are coming!

This is the logical way for the war to end, and, unlike other war-endings, it will end all war! It will be the triumph of the spiritual over the material.

Germany stands as the embodiment of material power to-day. Germany understands no other.

It is for the Allied Nations to demonstrate the power of the spirit, and in this demonstration every one has a part who has the determination to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with their God!

"All is Love but all is Law." The world is suffering because of its violation of the Law of Love. Every Law of God is a most beautiful and beneficent Law. In harmony with Law we know what "happiness" means. At variance with it—we suffer.

Let us each determine to make a real Christmas gift to the world by sending out a thought of healing, a thought of brotherhood!

Nellie L. McClung.



longer. There is a curative force in evil—when it goes the limit something happens—when the pot boils hard enough, it boils over.

This brings us to the time of writing! The pot of evil has boiled over, and its poisonous fumes are filling the house. We've got to do something now! We realize that material forces cannot save us—we must be saved by spiritual means.

Harry Lauder says trouble drives the soul to despair, to drink, or to God. The loss of his dear laddie has turned him to God, and now behind the lines he sings gospel hymns