## Which Shall It Be--"Kultur" or "Civilization"

W. D. L. HARDIE. President of The Union of Canadian Municipalities and Mayor of Lethbridge, Alta.



In a great war—the greatest war the world has ever known-there are two ideals of civilization contending for the commanding place in the world: that of represented "Kultur," in the German doctrine that "Might is right;" and "Civilization," as Anglo-Saxon understand Countries "Justice is it. that Right."

## Germany's Place in the Sun.

That "Kultur" . might have what the Germans called "Germany's place in the sun" that nation, with a combination of allies, Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria, practically raped the civilian world, especially Christian part of it.

Treaties Scraps of Paper.

To gain her object, Germany declared solemn treaties but scraps of paper, and marched through Belgium destroying property, raping and otherwise violating women, murdering the aged and young, and enslaving the ablebodied without regard for even the amenities of war, which are none too many at the best. Her allies raped and destroyed poor, wee, but heroic Serbia, without the smallest of reasonable excuses. She simply wanted to destroy that little nation to get her out of the way because heroic, liberty loving people are always a nuisance and a danger to tyrant bullies.

Austria and Serbia.

But Austria forgot for the moment the great history behind the Serbian race; she forgot the battle of Kassovo where the heroic Serbians sacrificed themselves almost to a man, in the defence of their liberties against the Turks, away back in 1371. A great Empire cracked at that battle and a liberty loving people have suffered nearly 600 years of bondage since then, but never, in all that period, has there been a moment when hope of liberty was blasted entirely. They have been fighting and contending for freedom all these years, and lately have been gathering a little at a time until a new Kingdom sprang up where there was but little prospect, a generation ago. This Kingdom embraces only about 4,000,000 of Serbians, while there are 10,000,000 more scattered throughout the Balkans and the Austrian Empire. All these are praying and hoping for the day when "Civilization" shall replace "Kultur," that justice will supplant might and that they will be permitted to reassemble under the one head of a great limited monarchy that shall stand for equality and justice before the world. The Turks took away their liberty then, but the time is at hand when the scales shall balance once again.

Time of Testing.

This is a time of great stress; a sifting of nations; a trial of character and a test of racial qualities. If we cannot roll up the central powers' armies, we can break the heart of the people and compel our own terms of peace in this way. But these two will and are going hand in hand now and are made doubly sure by the great American nation's entering on the side of the Allies. The turn of recent events on the Western battle front and Italian battle front shows very clearly that armies of even millions can be broken and crushed. It is my humble belief that if the Russians had been able to continue their legitimate share of this war, peace would have been almost at hand with all the concomitant blessings that

(From an Address delivered before the Fifth Annual Convention of the League of Minnesota Municipalities, October 18, 1917.)

would have accrued to Russia in a new born freedom. We have a heavy sigh of regret for ourselves and Russia, but mostly for Russia because of her misguided direction in her revolution. The fiery furnace has been doubly heated for her, but let us hope that the fiercer trial will guarantee a firmer foundation for her liberties to be built

In our will to win the war, we must carefully mark the progress we have made towards gaining a satisfactory end. In 1914 no power excepting Germany, in all the wide world, was prepared for war. The dark cloud of war suddenly arose in a clear sky, but behind that suddenly arisen cloud were forty years of preparation on the part of the central powers and especially of Germany. She desired a new place in the sun and made every plan to obtain it, by fair means or foul, more particularly by foul means.

Our Backs no Longer to Germany.

We no longer have our backs to Germany as we had in the retreat from Mons to the Marne, but we are facing the foe and driving him back and there is but little doubt now, with a full knowledge of superiority on the part of the Allies, that they can beat the central hosts. In the retreat from Mons we had but few men and small equipment. The men and the equipment were the best, but entirely inadequate, but they, just the same, made the German Kaiser regret his remarks of styling an army the contemptible little British army. It then was small but good; to-day it is large and powerful with the full faithof victory, a morale that adds another hundred per cent to its quality and equipment. This in combination with France's wonderful achievements and her wonderful army struck the death knell of Germany's hopes and the powerful strength of the American finance and man power has forever made Germany's hopes futile. This will eventually prove the greatest blessing to Germany because the inevitable result will be that she will exchange "Kultur" for "Civilization," "Might is right" for "Justice is right" and "Autocracy" for "democracy." The last blessing will be worth more than they have sacrificed for a wrong principle. It will be a hard lesson, but it will have been well learned.

United States in the War.

It is not for me to say what the United States will do in this war, but I do know that all over the world, freedom breathes more freely and has a larger hope in the ultimate progress of the world in civilization as Anglo-Saxons understand the world

All the Allied Nations shall be under an eternal obligation to the soldiers who are fighting this war for us, and I am one of those who do not think that we are doing

our full duty towards the soldiers.

In Canada.

In Canada we have got together about 400,000 men. roughly 5 per cent of our total population, and to keep up the rank and file, depreciated in every battle by casualties which are larger than in previous wars, we will have to send at least another 100,000 men and perhaps

These men are giving up everyhing for \$1.10 per day from the public purse, and in the case of married men for \$1.10 plus separation allowance of another sixty-five cents from the public purse, and a Patriotic Fund allowance from money contributed by the people by direct annual subscriptions.

This is inadequate, more especially since the cost of

everything has advanced.

These soldiers toil and moil as never men did before, and as no man at home does, yet the man at home is receiving larger remuneration all along the line and some are making fabulous fortunes. If there is conscription of manhood there should be conscription of wealth, and in wealth I am including the laboring man getting larger remunera-

Conscription of Wealth.

In Great Britain the railways are in the hands of the Government; the manufacturer turns over 80 per cent of his munition profits to the Government; there is a graduated income tax on all over \$750, and I believe lately this sum exempted has been reduced to \$500 and after the wealthy have met all income tax they are requird to turn (Continued on Page 5)