

the time had come to give recognition to the growing forces of labor. At that time (1905) organized labor had not taken the part that it did later in the political affairs of the Kingdom. The sterling personality of John Burns commended itself to Sir Henry, and for that reason, rather than because of any demand from the labor unions, Mr. Burns was called to the Cabinet as President of the Local Government Board. Indeed, the representative labor leaders were disposed to regard his acceptance of office as an unfriendly act, and during his term of office he received little sympathy from them. As a Cabinet Minister he worked in harmony with his colleagues, who honored and trusted him, and he did much work which won public approval—the approval, however, of the general public rather than that of the trades unions. Among the latter the view prevailed to too large an extent that that co-operation with the men of other classes meant the sacrifice of labor's interests. When Burns accepted an office with a salary of £2,000 per annum some of the labor leaders and Socialists attacked him. Asked by one of the latter if he intended to take the salary, Burns cleverly replied, "Yes, it is the trade-union wage for the service, and, not being a blackleg like you, I will not work for less." Mr. Burns was one of the four men in the Government who declined to follow the majority in their war policy. He resigned his Cabinet seat in 1914. Since that time he has continued to sit in Parliament, but has refrained from taking any prominent part in public affairs. Now he comes to the front again through an announcement that he is joining the official Labor party, and will be one of their candidates at the election that cannot be much longer deferred.

Mr. Burns' action in resigning his seat rather than become responsible for the carrying on of the war, indicates that he has a leaning toward pacificism that is not in harmony with British public opinion generally. However, Burns is a sturdy Englishman, who is not likely to sympathize with any movement at variance with Britain's honor. In his new role of a representative of the official Labor party he may have an opportunity of doing invaluable service. There is danger of that party committing itself to rash measures. The presence among them of a man like Burns should have a wholesome effect. A London correspondent of the New York Evening Post presents that view in an interesting letter. "In now casting in his lot with the organized Labor party," says the correspondent, "John Burns brings to it an asset that is likely to be of great value in the stormy days ahead. His presence in Labor Councils will do something to reassure those who fear that Labor supremacy in Parliament must mean inefficient administration, and the pursuit of wild and scatter-brained schemes for bringing in the millennium immediately. They will know that where John Burns is at any rate, neither extremist nor doctrinaire will pass unchallenged."

What the Germans Were Taught

WITH the Allies smashing the Central Powers on many fronts, and Bulgarians, Turks and Austrians calling for peace, there only remains Germany's opposition as the main obstacle to peace negotiations.

From certain quarters we hear it said that the German people desire peace, and that they

are totally unlike the War Lords who dominate the country. In the early days of the war it was a popular saying that we were "not fighting the German people, but German militarism as represented by the Prussian Junkers." Four years of struggle and the careful examination of German prisoners, the writings of German editors and authors, the teachings of her professors and teachers have shown the world that the German people are thoroughly in sympathy with the militaristic aims of the Prussian War Lords. This should not be forgotten now, when the prospects for peace look brighter.

In the past 50 years Germany has waged three successful wars, struggles which paid her from territorial, monetary and military standpoints. In every German school and college, the rising generation, and this has been so thoroughly ground into them that the whole war and the glories of fighting were taught German people are filled with the militaristic spirit.

Lest we forget what these teachings are, it is well to enumerate them from time to time. The following extracts from German papers, writers and the leaders of thought well show that the German people are as much into this struggle and hope to gain as much by it as the Prussian War Lords. The extracts follow:—

Stirner said—"What does right matter to me? I have no need of it. . . . I have the right to do what I have the power to do."

The Kaiser said: "Woe and death to all who oppose my will. Woe and death to those who do not believe in my mission."

Von Gottberg said: "War is the most august and sacred of human activities." — And again: "Let us laugh with all our lungs at the old women in trousers who are afraid of war, and therefore complain that it is cruel and hideous. No! war is beautiful."

Pastor Lehmann said: "Germany is the centre of God's plans for the world."

Bernhardi said: "Might is the supreme right."

Tannenbergs said: "War must leave nothing to the vanquished but their eyes to weep with."

The German troops have bettered that instruction. They have in many cases not left even eyes to weep with.

And having taught the people to accept those standards, listen to this:—

Kuhn said: "Must culture build its cathedrals upon hills of corpses, seas of tears, and the death rattle of the vanquished? Yes, it must."

Heine said: "Not only Alsace-Lorraine but all France and all Europe as well as the whole world will belong to us."

Chamberlain, the renegade Englishman, said: "He who does not believe in the Divine Mission of Germany had better go hang himself, and rather to-day than to-morrow."

Frederick said: "All written Constitutions are scraps of paper."

Canadianizing New Comers

SOME time ago a number of prominent residents of Winnipeg, including Sir James Aikins, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, formed an association for the purpose of furthering the "Education in Citizenship Through the Schools." The Westerners, in the old days before the war when new comers by the tens of thousands were pouring into the

West, were accustomed to boast that Winnipeg was the melting pot of the nation and that in this crucible the polyglot peoples of Europe would be fused into loyal Canadians.

The war has shown that the process of assimilation had not kept pace with the steady influx of foreigners. In the crisis which came to the country in August, 1914, many of the foreigners had to be interned while thousands of others observed a neutrality bordering dangerously near open sedition.

It is now recognized that little can be done with a grown-up man that leaves a foreign country and settles in a new land. — He may be a law-abiding citizen as long as there is no conflict of interests, but once his homeland is affected, the early associations as a rule prove too strong for his newly formed ties. The hope of Canadianizing the foreigners lies in the public schools, and it is through this great agency of democracy that the Winnipeg men are seeking to Canadianize the new comers. The work is a worthy one and should have the heartiest support and co-operation of our Government, our big business men and all who are interested in the building up of a loyal body of Canadian citizens.

There is a lesson from this movement which we should take to heart, namely not to throw open our doors indiscriminately and allow the scum and off-scouring of continental Europe to enter our gates. Perhaps no one can be specially blamed as we all worshipped the God of Bigness and thought that our country would become great if we peopled it with teeming millions. We paid little or no attention to quality—quantity being the main requisite. We have learned that it is better to have a few loyal citizens at a time of crisis than to have many of questionable loyalty. It is to be hoped that when the war is over, and we can give attention to problems of immigration that we will put up the bars and make it impossible for undesirable citizens to enter the country.

Britain's Polyglot Fighters

THE recent remarkable victory of the British in Palestine calls fresh attention to the far flung battle line being waged by the Empire. At the present time Great Britain is fighting Germany or her allies on eight fronts, and at one time was waging hostilities on nine fronts.

The tasks of transporting men, munitions and the provisions necessary to maintain armies on eight fronts through thousands of miles of submarine infested seas is a Herculean task.

Probably next to the wonder excited by Britain's ability to conduct successful campaigns on widely distributed fronts, the next most amazing thing is the manner in which men from the Overseas Dominions and dependencies have rallied to the support of the Mother Country. On the Western front there are hundreds of thousands of blacks from central and southern Africa, Burmahs, Hindus, Malays, Chinese, Fiji Islanders, and as well as Indians from Canada and Maoris from New Zealand. In addition to that there are Moroccans, Singalese, and Algerian troops fighting for France. Altogether there is a most polyglot crowd behind the allied lines. The marvel of it is that such peoples as the Zulus, Basutos, Matabeles and Boers, all of whom were fighting Britain a few years ago are now fighting for her. It is a marvellous tribute to Britain's conciliatory spirit.

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