

Saskatchewan Grain Growers

Officially Conducted for the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association
by the Secretary

J. B. Musselman, Regina, Sask.

Demand Educational Test

That the question of Canada's foreign born population is a serious problem no one questions; but a true solution is another matter and leaves room for great difference of opinion. Now that the war is ended and peace is once more in sight, interest is again being directed towards a solution along the lines of an educational test; which is recommended by the following resolution recently adopted at the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Theodore Local, No. 219, Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co. Limited:—

The resolution was moved by E. J. Smith and adopted by the meeting: "Whereas, the world-war has, so to speak, depleted the country of the English-speaking man-power and the voter; and in the past years the Dominion Government saw fit to flood the country with all kinds of people from Europe, and many of them of an inferior class, and the majority of the said people are from an enemy country, who have not and will not assist with Canada's war debt, and while our country's best blood is being shed in Europe for freedom and justice, that people following instructions are taking control of our public schools and municipal affairs, through the ballot, the same being a detriment to the country at large;

"Therefore, be it resolved that we, the Theodore Local, No. 219, of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, Limited, in regular session, do demand of the present Provincial Assembly to enact a law requiring an educational test in English before qualifying for a vote, and in so doing protect the country on behalf of the British born."

A National School System

The war has changed the viewpoint of many people on a host of questions. The smug indifference which characterized the real estate boom days immediately preceding the war, during which period many evils had been permitted to creep into the warp and woof of Canadian life, have for the present been

replaced by a lively anxiety regarding the more immediate problems. One which looms the largest affects the foreign population. Upon the need of a general system of education and a common language there can be scarcely two opinions, and that such a condition has not been brought about before the great world-war forced it upon the public conscience, is entirely the result of the hurry in which Canadian commercial interests and politicians have been to exploit Canada's alien and other foreign immigrants. All political parties have vied with each other in their race to secure the naturalization of these people, not for the purpose of making them good citizens, but solely to enable them to use the Gallians, Germans, Austrians, Italians, etc., on election day.

The resolution adopted by the Theodore local, demanding an educational test is along right lines. But it should never be overlooked that an educational test is by no means a guarantee of fitness to exercise the franchise. All who have taken any interest in the government of their country are painfully conscious of the fact that the most vitiating and degrading influence in the political life of all democratic countries does not come from the illiterate classes, but from those who, possessing education and even culture, do not scruple to use the ignorance and poverty of the less fortunate sections of the community, to the advancement of their own selfish political ends. Another fact in the same connection is the natural enquiry as to whether the educational test will be more likely to purify the ideals of the foreign population, along political lines, when such unworthy examples are set by the large class of British born, possessing educational advantages, who are so frequently guilty of both buying and selling their political birthrights for a mess of pottage.

This is no brief for ignorance and illiteracy; but merely an attempt to draw attention to the fact that moral standards and ideals must accompany education; otherwise it is not only no better, but worse.

Universal Free Trade Only Can Prevent War

Reasons for United States opposition to League of Nations Proposals are Attributed to American Protectionists.

By J. B. Musselman.

This is the second of a series of articles dealing with the question of the establishment of the permanent peace of the world through the formation of a League of Nations.

In the first article, the writer endeavored to show that by the great victory of the Allies in Europe, it had become possible for Democracy to permanently enforce the peace of the world, and that this end can be accomplished only through the formation of a League of Nations or United States of the World, the members of which will agree to submit their international difference to the findings of an international court. It was stated that effective military and naval forces for the policing of the world and for the enforcing of the findings of the Court of Nations will have to be maintained, but that the maintenance of permanent peace must depend primarily on the establishment of justice and equity between nations, and the removal thus of the prime causes of the war, rather than upon mere repression of the legitimate aspirations of nations and races. This article is intended to deal principally with the chief causes of war, and why there is opposition to the "League of Nations" proposed.

Principal Causes of War

The prime causes of war have never been many, and they are growing fewer as civilization advances. Most of the reasons which have been given for going to war in times past, have been excuses rather than reasons, so far as the aggressor is concerned.

Racial hatred in the early ages was no doubt the cause of many wars. Yet, upon close analysis, it would be found that this hatred was based upon causes visibly more specific than mere lack of propinquity between races. The Black has hated the Caucasian because he feared the latter, as he had good reasons to. The American Indian hated the white man because the white man was an usurper. The Mongolian hates the European because the European has always been the aggressor. Yet all these have learned to live together in peace and amity when justice and fairness are the guiding principles of the dominating white man in his dealings with others.

Religious Differences

Religious differences have been advanced as fruitful causes of wars. Christian and Jew have been enemies. Mohammedan and Christian have hated and warred with each other, as have also Protestant and Catholic. Yet it is doubtful if the world has ever had a war which was primarily actuated by religious differences or purely religious motives; at least, all such have had

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