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## Canadian Citizenship of the Future

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I appreciate very much the privilege of addressing you, particularly at this wonderful period of world events. We are all, I am sure, optimists as to the future of the great English-speaking peoples. We have no reason, in view of the great accomplishments of the past, to be in the least discouraged by the tremendous problems to-day confronting the British empire. Britain has survived every national crisis since the days of William the Conqueror, and she will not fail to maintain her leadership of civilization in these days of William the vanquished. The fires of reconstruction may burn fiercely for a while, but from this furnace will come forth men able to lead the empire further along the paths of progress and humanity. I have no patience with those people of 'super-patriotism,' whose solicitude is for every country except their own. These are the days when we must not neglect ourselves, and, like the proverbial cobbler, fail to provide shoes for our own.

It has taken a great war to bring home to the people of this world a true appreciation of the value of the citizen to his country. Never again will well-governed nations give so

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little thought or consideration for the well-being of the individual. Nations are but a collection of individuals, and it is from the physical, mental and moral development of its citizens that the state takes its standards, character and morals. It has been truly said that national honor is but the culmination of individual honor, and the foundation of the prosperity of the nation.

In the older countries it will be education, housing problems, hours of labor, and the health of the citizens which will receive the consideration of their respective governments, but here in our new Dominion, seeking, as we do, the best of mankind to settle and develop our unoccupied acres, we have many other features which must also receive careful direction, if our increase in population is to bring the development of our Dominion along the high plane we have every reason to anticipate.

Until the early years of the present century, the question of citizenship gave us little or no concern. Canada had developed slowly. Such immigration as we received came almost exclusively from Great Britain, and these God-fearing immigrants brought with them to their new homes those admirable sound principles of life which the British people have so long enjoyed.

It is within the past sixteen years that the immigration to Canada assumed a different character, and brought to our shores people from the oppressed nations of Europe. These were attracted not only by the opportunities offered by our new country, but also by the advantages of our democratic system of government. They came largely as a result of the flashy advertisements and solicitations of energetic European steamship agents, whose vessels sailed to Canada. As will always be the case, the roots of these non-English speaking settlers remained in the land of their birth. Was there any reason, then, for our being surprised when the war disclosed so many of our new camouflaged Canadians in their true colors? Owing to the exigencies of war, a general withdrawal of the citizenship granted to these new immigrants from enemy countries was necessary. Certainly no voice could be given them in the direction of our war efforts with their fatherland. Now that such citizenship has been withdrawn, it should not be returned until the question of the Canadian naturalization of the future has been definitely decided upon, and then restore it on the new basis.

What is going to be the future requirements of Canadian citizenship? Our standards must be raised. For one, I am

strongly in favor of probationary citizenship. Why should we not profit by our mistakes of the past and take the necessary steps to prevent a repetition of them? We know that invariably the heart of the matured immigrant remains, until death, with the land of his birth. Why then, when he becomes an immigrant to our Dominion, should we admit him into permanent citizenship equal to that enjoyed by those of us born in the country? I agree that the child who remembers but little of his birthplace soon acquires the ambition to be a Canadian, but seldom do the parents.

Should we not have an adequate language requirement in our naturalization? As a rule, the man who cannot read and write intelligently, cannot vote intelligently. Personally, I feel that with the single exception of French, it is absurd for us to grant the privileges of Canadian citizenship to anyone who is unable either to read or write the English language. I would not grant him even probationary citizenship. How can any man or woman be competent to decide and vote on our issues of the day when they are not able to either speak or read English? We must guard our suffrage. It has the power of life or death over our country.

The war has shown the necessity of the registration of aliens and I think this registration should be maintained. It is not suggested that anything like the old Russian system be attempted, but certainly our house could be better kept in order if we knew something about the people sojourning with us.

Developments of the past four years have shown, that, in seeking their freedom, some of our newcomers are disposed to interfere with ours. We should change our immigration laws to welcome the honest home-seeker, but to exclude the 'professionally oppressed', who seems unable to distinguish between the hardships he submitted to in the past and the liberties he now enjoys; who, because he suffered in his native land, wants to incite revolt against the very land that gives him refuge; put the burden of desirability on the immigrant who would come to us, and not upon the government. Let him produce the proofs of his fitness; make him register. With probationary citizenship and the knowledge that he can only become a Canadian when he has proved himself worthy, the immigrant may be stirred on to higher and better emotions, and he will certainly appreciate the privileges of our citizenship when he gets it.

It is clear that the old haphazard methods of interesting

European immigration will not do. It cannot be left largely to steamship companies and labor agencies. We must have selected immigration, conforming to our needs and standards, moral as well as physical. There must be careful scrutiny of all immigration if we are to maintain the present high standard of Canadian manhood.

Now is our opportunity to clean house. We should lose no time in getting rid of the present undesirables we have in Canada. If they are aliens, return them to their homes and thus rectify the mistake we made in admitting them. If there be citizens of our fair Dominion who are so unappreciative of the liberties they enjoy that they would incite their fellow citizens to revolt and destruction, give them the opportunity to select some other country more to their liking, but should they continue their activities in Canada, let there be no hesitancy, in dealing with them as enemies of our society, and if we have not the proper laws to enable us to do this effectively, then we should lose no time in enacting the necessary legislation. We want no coddling of anarchy in this country.

Why not follow the example of France and restore the law of banishment? With three weeks to leave the country, our prison doors to open to receive them at the expiration of that time, how many of our Bolshevists would remain with us as martyrs to the principles of ruin which they advocate? Canada is our country, and only those loyal to her should be allowed to live under her flag.

We must decide under what conditions we are to permit foreign papers to be published in this Dominion. In my judgment, these papers, if they are to continue, should be under strict government supervision, and compelled to duplicate in English every word printed in a foreign language.

As for national societies, they should be discouraged. Let us take the necessary step to avoid racial and national division such as they have in the United States. This is the time for us to adopt our new standards and to prepare to live up to them. Do not let us compromise our principles or permit our initiative to be overcome by repression.

We must plan for the future increased population we need, and are sure to receive. Canada should have 25,000,000 people in 1950. It will require careful direction if British sentiment is to prevail at that time. We must keep in close touch with our man-power conditions, and its tendencies.

This will have to be the serious duty of some department

of our government, and its statistics must be kept up-to-date. We should lose no time in having our standards of naturalization enacted into law and backed up by authority.

In advocating the house cleaning of our population, do not confuse this with the right to criticize, which must be upheld. Honest censure is a patriotic duty. The notion which has grown up during the war, that criticism is detrimental to the country, should now be repudiated. Fair criticism is essential to good government. Approval of policy cannot be secured by refraining from seeking it. It is the right and duty of all good Canadians to express their opinion as to how our country is to meet the conditions before us, facing them squarely and courageously. It is not well for the country that we should all be "incense burners" to the administration.

We have been considering what is necessary to cleanse our citizenship and to protect it from foreign invasion, but what about the welfare of the Canadians at home?

The war has shown the health of the individual, both physical and moral, and especially that of his children, are matters the state cannot afford to neglect. Great Britain at last appreciating this fact, has established a Ministry of Health to look after her people. We should lose no time in following this precedent. The ways in which this ministry can be of service to the nation are innumerable. In the housing problem alone, regulations under such a ministry should be enacted which would make congestion and its consequent slums, such as they have in Europe, impossible in Canada for all time.

During a recent visit to Dublin, in going through the slums (the worst in Great Britain), I was struck with the effectiveness of the modern single dwellings erected by the Guinness people in the center of the slums of that city. Coming immediately out of the most wretched streets, lined with innumerable hovels occupied by inhabitants in filth and rags, one emerges into a block of small, individual brick dwellings, with a flower garden in front of each, occupied by the same class of people as the adjoining slums. However you found them,—grown people and children—cheaply but well clad, neat and clean,—in the most marked contrast to their less fortunate neighbors. Such is the effect of good homes on the people. We should permit no others in Canada.

We can be proud of the educational system we maintain which leaves little to be desired, so far as the youth is con-

old political methods no longer meet with his indifference. Unless they are forced to it by inaction, there will be little tendency to offer suggestions from the ranks, but the soldier will use the right to see and to say what he sees, which must be exercised by all good citizens in our free Dominion. Foreign service and the sacrifices which it exacts, not only increases the patriotism of our soldiers, but greatly elevates their ideals of government and their respect for truth, justice, and right. That they will be insistent on higher patriotism in our political life of the future may be accepted as a certainty. Is it not on their returned soldiers that Canada will depend for the backbone of the national patriotism? There it will be found. Let us, therefore, remember that a square deal for honestly discharged soldiers will not only strengthen the morale of the nation, but will go far to create and maintain a higher national conscience.

The soldier has every right to expect Canadians to be in peace what he has proven them to be in war, a people capable, man for man, to hold their own with any race in the world. With unlimited confidence in the Dominion, he looks forward to such expansion in production and industry as will bring happiness and general prosperity for the individual, and for the people as a whole. He is for 'action to-day'. Promptness in meeting all emergencies which he had learned to be so essential to a successful battle of arms, he believes equally essential in the affairs of state.

In a country which has been so unanimous in war, it should be unnecessary to plead for unity during the vital period of reconstruction; a gulf that must be crossed and which will require the united efforts of all. Patriotic Canadians may well view with alarm the dissension which would appear to be growing in Canada. Why should our country divide into three factions—farmers, laborers and manufacturers—when the future success of each, depends on the co-operation of all? Let me quote you the scripture text of that great liberator, Abraham Lincoln, 'A house divided against itself cannot stand.'

A great deal of progress is being made these days by labor, which has received the recognition of the League of Nations. We hear of better homes, shorter hours of work, more recreation for the laboring man. I am greatly in sympathy with them all, but what about the farmer? Who is thinking about making his working hours less, home life

pleasanter, and farming generally more attractive? I know that many of you now consider the farmer a bloated capitalist and not in need of your consideration. I was raised to manhood on an Ontario farm, and I have no illusions on the subject. My sympathies are with the farmer, and particularly with his womenfolk. What if he has obtained big prices for his produce for the last four or five years? How long has he waited for his inning, and how many of us would have been content to exercise his patience and forbearance? If so why did we leave the farm? What more even distribution can there be of the increased wealth of the nation than among the farmers? When they are prosperous, only then will the country be prosperous.

A glance over a list of prominent Canadians will be sufficient to satisfy anyone that the farmers are the backbone of our citizenship. Our farms are, and, God willing, I am sure will remain for years to come, the nursery of our statesmen and the fountain of our national ideals. The best men grow in close contact with nature. How necessary, then, that the farmer should have first consideration? His interest will always be allied with conservative government. The destructive methods of Bolshevism, so foreign to British character, will find no place with the land-owning farmers of our Dominion. They will always be a bulwark against the etherized principles of socialism.

If the efforts to popularize farming are to succeed, improved rural conditions must come first. A great deal can be done in this respect, not only to make farming a pleasanter occupation, but also to raise its efficiency and increase its returns.

Good roads and better transportation generally would be a great boon to the farmers whose products must all be taken to market. The adoption of light railways with their gasoline motors, as used in the war areas, to the needs of the farming communities, would bring almost every farmer in a well-settled district within ten miles of railway transportation. The development of water powers where available, and the bringing of light and power to the farming communities, somewhat along the lines now being worked out in Ontario, are conveniences that mean much to comfort on the farm. The construction and operation of municipal or district cinemas would add, not only to the amusement of the community, but would afford a wonderful opportunity to

educate the masses, not only in agriculture and its sundry problems, but also to the issues of the day. The cinemas have undoubtedly become one of the modern means of education and afford the only opportunity to reach a considerable portion of the population. If it is not to be made use of as a part of our educational system of the future, then our government should certainly exercise a very decided supervision over its educational tendencies. The extension of the rural delivery and parcel post systems, and the establishment of travelling libraries, which might be carried on in connection with the proposed district cinemas, coupled with lower postage rates for magazines and farm periodicals, would go far to make the farmer's opportunity equal to that enjoyed by the city or village resident.

With a view to efficiency, our government can go much further in assisting Agriculture throughout the Dominion.

Fortunately, the day is past when scientific farming is regarded as a fad. With the question of seed selection and development, soil adaptability and improvement, the scientific breeding of live stock, dairy, farm economics, domestic science and the sundry other important matters the successful farmer must know, agriculture is surely and rapidly becoming a profession.

Not only in all of these matters should the government give the farmer every assistance, but also by importing the best breeding stock from Europe for the government farms, with a view of their progeny being distributed throughout the Dominion. No longer should we stand aside and permit the tops of the best breeding stock of Europe to continue to go to Argentine and other countries in the southern hemisphere. There should be many more demonstration farms throughout Canada so that all farmers might have the advantage of a practical demonstration of the suggestions they received. Such farms might be established on a county basis, equipped with the necessary laboratories and lecture halls, and in charge of an expert, who could advise the individual farmers in detail on any matter connected with his farming operations. Such an arrangement should mean a tremendous increase in the production of our farms, and would repay the country many times what it cost.

These things occur to me at the moment as an encouragement to farming in this country. The lower prices which are certain to prevail for agricultural products before many years pass may make efficiency absolutely essential to

profitable farming, and the consideration of such matters a necessity. There are, I am sure, many other ways of assisting and popularizing farming, all of which, in the aggregate, will mean a great deal more to successful and remunerative agriculture than the tariff issue now rending the country, and apparently preventing our administration from proceeding with the pressing issues of reconstruction.

There can be no future for Canada in the strangulation of her industries. This would certainly be disastrous to labor, and, in my judgment, most injurious to agriculture. The farmer, who must look forward to a big reduction in the present war prices for his produce, will, when this comes about, be greatly interested in the development of the country as a whole and the increase in home consumption. It is said that home consumption takes three-quarters of what our farms produce. Picture what 25,000,000 people in Canada would mean to the value of the present farms, and the stabilizing effect such a population would have on certain farm commodities, some of which are now on an export basis only by reason of the high war prices prevailing. It is only necessary to look across the imaginary boundary line to see the effect of population on agriculture and farm land values.

All the countries of Europe find their economic situation following the war so difficult of adjustment, so much of their labor unemployed, and their finances so badly depleted, that they must guard every avenue through which their balance of trade may be adversely affected. They are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to produce, so far as possible, all the people's requirements at home, thus conserving their money and furnishing employment for home labor.

Until disclosed by the war, nations failed to appreciate their weakness in not producing certain essentials, but depending on what subsequently turned out to be their enemies for the same. Self preservation compels them to run no such risks in the future. The United States is following this course. The principle of producing at home is a very simple one. Who succeeds, the farmer who thinks he can better afford to buy his limited pork requirements from Swift, or the one who raises his own pigs? So with nations. Even Great Britain is abandoning her old-time free trade policy. Certainly this would be a most inopportune time for Canada to go blundering along under the present tariff system,

making changes in the tariff which possibly would affect the soundness of her industrial institutions. It would be throwing away the very foundation of the industries we have been endeavoring to develop for the past twenty-five years, and which, thanks to the war, have now become firmly established.

It is claimed that our tariff system is illogical and unsound and the present tariff the result of tinkering and patching arrived at neither by system nor reason, and not in keeping with present conditions. There would appear to be much to justify this claim. If this is correct, what is the business way to deal with it? Will we start in to make more blind compromises, or will we adopt the common-sense, business way and proceed to find out what the situation is. The comparative cost and selling price of the articles in the competing countries and in our own? As much of our competition comes from the United States, should we not ascertain the selling prices of similar articles at relative points in that country and Canada? Possibly it will be found that the trouble is not all with the tariff.

Take the case of binders. If it is shown that a binder sells for practically the same price in Fargo, N.D., as in Winnipeg, then the tariff is not to blame. Something else is wrong. Perhaps the fact that there is a harvester trust in the United States of America may have a bearing on the prices. What the farmer wants is a cheaper binder, which he should have if investigation shows an undue margin between the cost and the selling prices, either with or without the tariff, and so with other articles.

Why not have a parliamentary committee, on which both the farmers and manufacturers would be represented, to investigate the tariff, with a view of recommending tariff legislation which will be for the welfare of the nation as a whole, and not for any one class? This committee would investigate the question of selling price and cost price of the principal articles of tariff now in question, and would recommend to parliament the basis to be adopted for our tariff of the future.

It could do no harm, and might tend to bring this about, if the manufacturers and farmers were to get together now for a general discussion, and in this the manufacturers, being the business men, should take the initiative. The disposition to fight it out at arm's length, which is so much in evidence, is not in the interest of the parties concerned, or the country as a whole. Sensible loyal Canadians should get together.

I appreciate that this committee suggestion means the delay of a year in the tariff adjustment, but surely the farmers who, owing to the excessive prices still prevailing for farm products are at least enjoying their full share of the prosperity of the country this year, can afford to be patient if they have the assurance of an intelligent and fair adjustment of the whole tariff question within a reasonable time.

It would appear that the economic situation in Canada and our great war debt will force us, in any new tariff, to adopt the basic principle of, so far as possible, producing our requirements at home. I do not believe the farmers of the country who must bear their share in the nation's obligations, will offer any objection to such a tariff. Certainly labor, whose efforts frequently constitute three-fourths of the cost of many articles, can only make the protection, which they have secured by way of wage agreements, effective by the adoption of the principle which enables the work of production to take place in Canada, and our money to remain at home instead of going to foreigners, aggravating the exchange situation which is already very difficult. Anyone knows that a little money in the house is worth quantities in the bush—especially if it is the other fellow's bush.

The nations of Europe are looking to the new world for raw materials with which to operate their factories. Canada is rich in such assets, and we must see to it that our policy of the future will ensure the operation and development of our native industries, and the manufacture of our raw materials at home, employing labor in Canada instead of some foreign country.

Now, while we have a Union government, representative of both political parties, an opportunity is presented to take the tariff out of politics, and place it in the hands of a permanent non-political commission, on which the different interests would be represented. Any equitable tariff must vary frequently and it will require something like a standing commission to promptly and properly deal with it in accordance with changing conditions. The interest of the Canadian people in all tariff adjustments which, as a rule, require special knowledge and careful investigation, can surely be left with more satisfaction to the consideration and decision of a well-balanced tariff commission and their experts, than to the present long-delayed haphazard compromising adjustments effected by parliament, always with a great deal of discussion,

agitation, uncertainty and consequent depression in business.

The proposed tariff investigation should include the question of a general luxury tax similar to that in force in several European countries, and which is the source of much income to them. The payment of this tax by the customer, at the time of purchase brings home to him the net value of the article and has a decidedly wholesome effect and a marked tendency towards thrift and plain living. This revenue is contributed direct by the individual with the expensive tastes; the man who unduly spends has to pay for his pleasure. Is it not well that we should bridle the luxury of living consequent upon the great material prosperity the country has so recently enjoyed, otherwise such wealth may become the cause of much discontent in the future.

Far-sighted patriotic Canadians, instead of attempting to block the masses in their endeavours, should proceed at once to devise means of reaching the national goal without disturbance. Let all of us, east and west, wrap up our tariff emotions in cotton wool, reverently lay them aside, and proceed with the sound sense of an honest nation, remembering that while co-operation spells prosperity, dissension means ruin.

Democracy in industry as in politics is being advocated. Our policy should be one of stability, as it will require our united strength if we are to get our share of the business resulting from the war, and make the most of the present exceptional opportunity to establish our foreign trade. In many lines our industrial capacity exceeds the normal demands. The individual manufacturers should concentrate into associations, eliminate self-destructive competition at home, and enjoy the advantages of a large output and uniform grades in the export market. Under a properly regulated tariff, and with the big competitor to the south of us ever present, there can be no national objection to any combination of Canadian manufacturers which will tend to lower the cost of production or to increase their output.

In view of the urgency for the early resumption of our industries, and the importance of retaining, if possible, a favorable balance of trade, Canada can go far to aid them in establishing their export connections. A great deal can be done.

The manufacturers of our Dominion as a whole have had but limited experience in foreign markets. We are as yet only in the kindergarten class in the school of international

trade. It will require considerable education to make world traders of our manufacturers, and in this as in all matters of education, the government should take a leading part.

Our Minister of Trade and Commerce must necessarily be the head of this movement. His initiative and that of his assistants abroad can go far to aid our manufacturers or their associations in their foreign efforts. We may well pattern our government representation abroad after the pre-war plan of the German foreign service, in which every representative was an agent for big business at home, instead of following the precedent of the British diplomatic service, which in the past has considered trade beneath its dignity. We must not depend on the British consuls for our information. In most cases they know little of Canada, and, if possible, even less of her industries and their requirements, and in all cases their obligation is to represent British manufacturing interests.

Our senior government official in each country should be the active head of our trade relations. With a view of giving them a higher standing, and the entree to diplomatic circles, and at the same time making it possible to get many of our best business men to accept appointments abroad, we should, where the volume of trade justifies, raise the status of our representatives to high commissioners. What does the increased salary (which after all is but a part of the expenses of any high commissioner) amount to compared with the advantages which accrue to Canada? Imagine good business men as high commissioners, their heads full of sound commercial ideas and their trading faculties thrilled with the opportunities presented for trade with their Dominion. Support them with bright assistants, thoroughly familiar with the productive capacity and requirements of our own country, as well as the country to which they have been allocated, and able to speak its language. It would be difficult to over-estimate what such an organization abroad would mean to our export business. We would have a representation of which we would well be proud.

What about assistance to our manufacturers at home?

The great trouble with our export business will be the sad lack of commercial linguists. Spanish and French should both be made obligatory in our high schools and universities. We should have a Faculty of Commerce in connection with our universities, where all Canadian young men desirous of engaging in foreign trade could receive the necessary training to qualify them for the work.

Few of our manufacturers have reached a point of size where they can afford a scientific staff and laboratories. Where the outlay is heavy, the economy gained is general to all trade and amounts to a small percentage of the cost of production, it would appear that the government through its ministry of trade and commerce should maintain the same for the benefit of our industries. It would be possible through this agency to be of great assistance to our manufacturers, not only in a scientific way but in encouraging proper methods of production, marketing, cost accounting and the general principles of manufacturing efficiency. While it is not suggested that the government assume any direction over our industries, yet in view of the large number of manufacturers who have become victims of their own inexperience, it would appear that the government might display a little real paternal interest with advantage to the trade of the country as a whole.

With good qualified trade representatives abroad, we should be able to look forward to greatly improved reciprocal arrangements with many countries. Never has there been such an opportunity as the present for Canada to improve her trade relations. South Africa and the British West Indies want free trade with Canada; Australia and New Zealand will go a long way and give us a big preference; Great Britain we need not fear under the new conditions where cheap labor, long hours of work and cheap power have disappeared. We can safely give them a good preference on everything, and if the preference they propose to grant us in their new tariff scheme is a substantial one, I for one would be glad to see us grant Great Britain free trade with Canada, but do not misunderstand me, I do not think it is good business for us to make it altogether one-sided and give Britain free trade regardless of whether she gives us a preference worth while, for all practical purposes treats us the same as the many neutrals which bore no part of the great expense of the fight for liberty, but on the contrary have grown rich through the war expenditures of others.

The small nations of Europe do not wish to trade with their arch-enemy, Germany. They are jealous of France and Italy and want to trade with the British Empire. America will do a big business with them for the present as she will extend them both food and credit. American methods, however, are crude and unless the American manufacturer, like

ourselves, takes the kindergarten course in the school of international trade, he will soon lose out to the experienced European trader, who is a digger after facts and conditions, and studies his field with the microscope of world-wide commercial experience.

In order to get his part of this trade, the Canadian manufacturer must broaden out, study his market and be prepared to forego the immediate profit, if necessary, when establishing his foreign business. It costs money to start up at home. Why should no sacrifice be anticipated when launching a new business abroad?

Early in my tenure of office as quartermaster-general of the overseas forces of Canada, I was greatly impressed with the opportunity afforded through the army and navy canteen board to introduce Canadian products, not only into Great Britain, but France, and through their soldiers in the field to the various dominions and colonies. As this great merchandising institution purchased \$150,000,000 of supplies annually, I had visions of a big market for Canadian products and a wonderful opportunity to introduce them to the world.

I succeeded in getting them to send a special representative to Canada, and so that the best might be made of the opportunity, I sent my assistant quartermaster-general with him. The result was disappointing. Owing to a big home demand, we were successful in getting very few manufacturers to take any interest in our export proposition or to supply the goods. Notwithstanding this, however, in a six weeks' trip, purchases aggregating some \$2,000,000 were made, and they proved so satisfactory that that board the following year endeavored to place others aggregating \$30,000,000 in Canada, but were prevented from doing so by the financial arrangements existing between Great Britain and the United States. They are, however again in the market this year, I am advised, and for a large amount. I quote this instance simply to bring home to the manufacturers the lack of foresight as well as the necessity to get established in foreign markets when the opportunity offers.

Our merchant marine should be operated with a view of increasing our foreign trade. We cannot look forward with much success in competing with the cheaper tonnage and lower wages prevailing on the usual European steamship routes.

We can best afford to operate these steamers on the trade routes to the countries with which we have reciprocal arrange-

ments but poor transportation, and to Mexico and other countries in Central and South America that are also anxious to trade with us. Operated on this basis, they would be a great assistance to our foreign trade.

Our manufacturers, if they enter on the broad basis that the world trade demands, with proper government co-operation, need have no fear under the present circumstances of unduly paying for their export experience. The ministry of trade and commerce, by frequent meetings with the various industrial associations, and by personal consultations with the manufacturers from time to time, and a regular system of manufacturers' reports, covering articles of export, would be in a position to keep the government trade representatives abroad fully advised as to the requirements of the industries at home. From his representatives abroad he could easily procure prompt and regular reports by cable covering the trade situation in the various countries in which our manufacturers do business, and such reports transmitted regularly and promptly to the manufacturers interested, would be a safe and reliable guide, particularly to those new in the business. It would be a simple matter, with the co-operation of the manufacturers, to organize a department of trade, so that it would be of invaluable assistance to our exporters. It would be the source of information which it would be impossible for them otherwise to procure.

If there is one thing that stands out to-day it is the duty of sober counsel among ourselves. Our problems are not impossible of satisfactory solution. Quite on the contrary, the interests of all factions are so interdependent that the spirit of compromise must prevail. I have endeavored in my remarks to point out some of the many things that should be done for the farmer and for the manufacturer as well. We must not only be just, but generous with each other, and loyal to the interests of the people as a whole. This is no time for class legislation. There can be no reaction to pre-war conditions. Let us not try to block the wheels of progress, but join in the upward march for a nobler and a broader life, a better Canada, both civil and political.

If we take the tariff out of politics, we remove one of the corruptive influences from our public life. While we have a non-partisan government, let us go a step further, and though conceding campaign funds necessary, demand that (as in the United States) a certified list of contributors,

with the amount subscribed, to any political party be filed, and thus made available, so that the people may know the "interests" supporting them. Our laws should be amended so as to make bribery a criminal offense for the man offering or paying the bribe, as well as the man receiving it, and they should both be disfranchised. Such legislation would go far to remove the necessity for excessive campaign funds, which have not been to our credit in the past. The poet Dante placed in the worst torments of hell the man who sold his country for gold. His ideas are worthy of consideration, even at this late date. Why should we not deal with the public official who prostitutes his office either for his own enrichment or that of his friends, as a traitor to his country and subject to trial and punishment as such? Our government must take the people more into their confidence. There should be greater frankness displayed by our various administrations. These and other similar reforms must be inaugurated if our government is to measure up to the higher political principles which are slowly but surely taking possession of the Canadian people.

In the past it has been difficult to induce business men to sacrifice their interests and enter public life. Many people were even careless about discharging their duty at the polls. Scattered along our highway of national events, we see many evidences of this indifference of the past. During the last four years tens of thousands of Canadians have laid down their lives for their country on the battlefield. There was no place in Canada for the military slacker. Now that the country is facing an emergency only second to the war, when the great need is for sound, practical business men in federal, provincial and municipal administrations, are political slackers to be tolerated, or will our business men who were not called away for military duty be now obliged to give to their country such services as the public interest may demand? Is the standard of patriotism to be less in peace than in war?

Canada is potentially one of the richest countries in the world. During the next five years she should lay the foundation for the greatest prosperity in her history, developing her agriculture and her industries side by side, shipping her produce and her manufactured articles to the markets of the world. Her farmers, manufacturers and laborers should be prosperous and contented.

Remembering that everything we do not know about is apt to look much bigger than it really is, and that while certainty makes business, uncertainty paralyzes it; let us urge our legislators on to action. There can be no contest between east and west at this time. We must get back to the sound basis of mutual confidence. Is it not as clear as noon-day that the imperative duty to the country is to get on with reconstruction?

The problems immediately before us will test the genius, statesmanship and patriotism of our public men to the limit. Heavy demands will also be made on the patriotism and self-sacrifice of the individual citizen. Personal interests must be refrigerated. All partisanship, sectional or local interests and prejudices must be placed in cold storage during the period of reconstruction, and the brains and the muscles of the country left free for harmonious action, if Canada is to come into her own.

Will the good patriotic people of our Dominion, forgetting all former affiliations, get together and insist on an impartial, honest, aggressive business direction of all the country's affairs? If so, we need have no fear of being denied our "Great Inheritance."