

township.

THE PROBLEM OF CONSCRIPTION.

Globe Feb 4, 1919
Britain and Germany have already taken measures for the reconstitution of their national armies upon the basis of voluntary enlistment. The United States will unquestionably return to the same system. There has been no indication as to the attitude of France on the issue of conscription, but there will undoubtedly be vigorous opposition on the part of certain elements in that country to the adoption of voluntary enlistment for the national defense.

The British delegates to the Peace Conference are pledged to do everything possible to induce all the Great Powers to make an end of the huge standing armies that have been a continual menace to the world's peace. General Smuts, in a pamphlet submitted to the Conference outlining the program which should in his opinion be carried out at the Conference, placed emphasis on the abolition of great standing armies:

"I look upon conscription," he said, "as the taproot of militarism; unless that is cut all our labors will eventually be in vain. . . . Let the drunkard sign the pledge, even if we have to look around for some other less dangerous narcotic to soothe him in his troubles. For I admit that it will not be prudent to leave States without the necessary means of self-defense against both internal and external dangers."

The question of voluntary enlistment versus the compulsory service of all citizens must come up soon in the Conference. Mr. Lloyd George has declared that Britain will turn to conscription only as a last resort if forced to do so by the insistence of continental European nations on the maintenance of the system which has required the young men of the continental powers to spend two or three years of the formative period of their lives in barracks and camps. The tremendous cost of militarism may constrain the nations to make an end of conscription and accept the voluntary principle. National Budgets will have to be scanned more closely than ever before, and the maintenance in idleness of millions of armed men seems to be the one big waste that can be cut out with benefit to all concerned.

MANY SLACKERS FOUND IN HAYMOWS

Feb 7 - 1919
DOMINION POLICE HAVE CARRIED ON WORK SUCCESSFULLY AMID DIFFICULTIES.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Windsor, Feb. 6. — What the Dominion Police in Western Ontario have accomplished in enforcing the Military Service Act, is shown by figures made public here by Capt. Asa R. Minard, former Chief Inspector of Police for Military District No. 1.

More than 100,000 men of military age were compelled to show their credentials. Three thousand of these were taken in raids on dance halls, poolrooms and other public places, and 300 were taken before civil Magistrates for violations of the act, fines being imposed in a majority of cases.

Approximately 60 per cent. of the work done in the district was handled by Windsor officers in charge of Lieut. Donald Gregory, to whom credit is given for successful enforcement of the act in the border district. Capt. Minard says the work was carried out under great difficulties in some districts because of the anti-draft attitude of the population. Many slackers, he said, were taken from haymows and other out of the way places.

QUEBEC SLACKERS GET OFF EASILY

Sunderland Press Feb 7-19
QUEBEC, Feb. 6.—Absentees under the M. S. A. are flocking to the police court here to pay their light fine and be let off with their full rights as citizens of Canada. Yesterday at the afternoon session of the court, over 100 absentees brought in by their pastors appeared and were fined about \$5 each and let go. Rev. Father Tessier, of Pont Rouge, came in piloting over 60 deserters, while Father Guay, of Port Neuf, escorted about 50 absentees.

STOP CADET DRILL

Sunderland Press Feb 7-19
Brantford Board of Education, Returning All Rifles to Government.

BRANTFORD, Feb. 6.—At a meeting of the Board of Education fees in all the public schools of the city were ordered abolished. Notice of motion to abolish fees in the Collegiate Institute for city pupils was also given.

A resolution was submitted for the discontinuance of cadet drill in the schools and brought forth a lively discussion. The two lady members of the board strongly opposed the move. The board decided to return all rifles to the Government.

The board decided to at once urge this city's claim for a new technical school on the Provincial Government. Inspector Kilmer, in his annual report declared that an average attendance of 68 per cent. was too low, and that the absence in most part was due to children being out to work on account of living conditions.

THE SHIRKERS TRIUMPH.

Globe - Feb 7 - 1919
A conscientious objector was sentenced to two years in the Kingston Penitentiary last week for refusing to don the King's uniform, though he had worked for five months without pay. Three men this week were given a year each for refusing to obey an order to report for military duty. In this city on Wednesday a private was sentenced to ten years for desertion. Yesterday in another court one hundred men were fined \$5 for evading the Military Service Act, and were restored to full citizenship. The disparities in these sentences require some explanation. Conscientious objectors who stay to take their medicine are less obnoxious than slackers who sneak out of the reach of the law.

Globe - Feb 7 - 1919
Many deserters and shirkers under the Military Service Act are let off by Quebec courts with a fine of five dollars. In face of this sorry farce it seems a shocking thing that "conscientious objectors" should be in Kingston serving in some cases ten-year sentences.

Judge Langelier of Quebec States That Federal Department of Justice Directed His Course in Lenient Dealing With Young Slackers

NEW COURSE NOW FOLLOWS PROTEST

On Receipt of Change in Order From Ottawa Judge Confers With Provincial Attorney-General, but Declines to Make Public Statement as to Result

CASES DEFERRED PENDING DECISION

Report That Many May be Appealed and Endeavor Made to Quash Fines With View to More Severe Punishment of Delinquents—Government May Appoint Commissioner to Deal Specially With Quebec Cases

Feb 11, 1919
(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

QUEBEC, Feb. 10.—“Absentees no longer let off with \$5 fines.” This “sign” was metaphorically hung up this afternoon at the door of the Police Court at Quebec, where for the past few weeks absentees under the Military Service Act had been wont to free themselves of any liability to disfranchisement or heavier penalty by simply paying a light fine of \$5 or \$10. The sudden change in procedure against absentees in the local Police Court came as a surprise to everybody early to-day under the form of a telegram emanating from Mr. L. L. Newcombe, Deputy Minister of Justice, at Ottawa, who wired to cease letting off absentees with light fines, and follow an altogether different course of proceeding in their case.

ACTED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, SAYS JUDGE.

Judge Charles Langelier of the Police Court, questioned by the representative of The Globe, admitted that such an order had been received from Ottawa, necessitating a change in the proceedings so far as absentees under the Military Service Act are concerned. Early to-day Judge Langelier was shown a clipping of a Toronto paper wherein Mr. C. Leslie Wilson, Registrar for the Military Service Act in Toronto District, said he saw nothing in the instructions from the Federal Department of Justice allowing Judges and Magistrates to let off with light fines absentees under the Military Service Act. Judge Langelier expressed his surprise at such a statement.

“I may tell you,” stated Judge Langelier, “that what I have done in freeing absentees with fines was done under written instructions I received from the Federal Department of Justice.”

Questioned farther on the matter, Judge Langelier said: “I cannot go into details of the reasons given by the Federal Department of Justice for letting off absentees with light fines, but I acted under the above-mentioned written instructions from Ottawa.”

Alleged Statements of Officer.

Commenting on the present situation in connection with the prosecution of absentees, Le Soleil of this city this evening reprints a story published in the local press on January 27, 1919. The story says: “Lieut.-Col. Whitehead, who has been appointed by the Federal Department of Justice to prosecute absentees under the Military Service Act, has stated here that all those who did not report for military service will be apprehended. However, on the other hand, everyone will obtain justice. It is not the intention of the authorities,” said Lieut.-Col. Whitehead, “to persecute absentees, and we know that most of them did not report through their ignorance of the laws, or because they were ill-counselled.” “Nobody need fear,” continues the statement then made by Lieut.-Col. Whitehead. “It is not our intention to crowd penitentiaries and jails, and to throw upon the public the expense of feeding and keeping all the absentees in jail. We do not intend, either, to send the absentees to jails where they are liable to become jailbirds, and thus demoralize the population. Each case shall be decided according to its own particular merits, and the civil tribunals, we believe, will understand the conditions under which we labor, and the goal we aim at.” Such is the statement made here by Lieut.-Col. Whitehead of Ottawa, according to the stories the local press made at the time.

Langelier Confers With Att’y-Gen.

Late this afternoon Judge Langelier, who was the Magistrate in charge of the punishment of the absentees that voluntarily reported for sentence since the above-mentioned statement was published, conferred on the sudden change of procedure with the department of the Provincial Attorney-General. Questioned this evening by The Globe, Judge Langelier said he could make no statement yet, but that this would be forthcoming some time Tuesday.

Did Not Pay Their Fines.

This afternoon many scores of absentees flocked again to the Police Court room to pass before the court, be fined, and go back home unmolested, but Judge Langelier simply registered their report, and postponed the hearing to a later date. It is understood now that the draftees reporting or apprehended for hear-

JUDGE LANGELIER REPLIES TO WIRE ABOUT DEFAULTERS

Tells Mr. Newcombe He Can-
not Be Intimidated or
Held Up

ACTED IN GOOD FAITH

Had Instructions Regarding
Dealings With Absentees

From Duty Feb 14

Hamilton *Journal* 1919

Quebec, Feb. 13.—A debate will be provoked in the house of commons by members for Quebec district at the next session on the Langelier-Newcombe incident. This statement was made to the Canadian Press today by men in the political field. Yesterday evening Judge Langelier received a message from Mr. Newcombe, deputy minister of justice at Ottawa, asking for the name of the official who handed over to the judge the written instructions regarding the penalties to be imposed on absentees. The judge today sent the following telegram to Mr. Newcombe:

"The written instructions I received in connection with the cases of absentees were handed to me by A. Whitehead, chief inspector of the federal police for Quebec district, who on that occasion also handed me a booklet containing the orders-in-council on the matter.

"I had good reasons for believing that these instructions emanated from your department, for the law regarding constables and magistrates and the application of fines was perfectly well expressed in the booklet.

"Further, it is a known fact that the military service act is entirely under the control of the department of justice.

"This is, indeed, so true that the fiat of the general officer commanding a district who was necessary to institute proceedings, was suppressed by an order-in-council dated January 9 last, and that now the mere fiat of the minister of justice is necessary to institute such proceedings.

"I acted on the faith of these instructions but it is false to say that I imposed in all cases nominal fines of \$5.

"Your telegram to Mr. Lanctot, deputy attorney-general of Quebec, is unjust, baseless and constitutes an unjustifiable libel against my conduct as a judge.

"I feel that you should have been courteous enough to ask me for information instead of basing your judgment on mere press stories.

"Do you think that is a proper way of treating a man invested with the administration of justice?

"I never had anything to do with the deserters, and what you say on that matter is absolutely baseless.

"You may rest assured that I shall not be intimidated nor held up in the execution of my duties as a judge, neither by you nor by anyone else.

(Signed)

"LANGELIER."

NO PROPERTY FOR EVADERS

War Veterans Want Their
Lands Confiscated.

Also in Favor of Drugless
Healers.

The regular meeting of the East Hamilton G. W. V. A. was held at the clubhouse, on Scott Barracks, last evening. Owing to sickness, Rev. W. L. Williman was unable to be present to address the members. The attendance was the largest since the formation of the branch. Over three hundred members being present, not including a large number of men just returned.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the members, copies of which are to be forwarded to the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Militia, the Dominion and Provincial secretaries of the G.W.V.A.:

Resolved, that the East Hamilton Branch of the G. W. V. A., as a body, are opposed to any draft evader having or using a franchise in either Dominion, Provincial or municipal elections. Furthermore, we are also opposed to any draft evader holding any property, real or otherwise, in any part of the Dominion of Canada.

A strong resolution was also decided upon with reference to war gratuity calling for the order in Council to be made attractive and apply to members who were prevented from reaching an actual theatre of war, and who were discharged prior to Nov. 11, 1918. This will be forwarded immediately to the Minister of Militia at Ottawa.

A letter was read by the President, A. H. Peart received from the chairman of the Ontario Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, requesting support in strongly opposing any monopoly of the healing art by the medical profession of this Province, in the forthcoming Legislature. A resolution strongly supporting the Trades and Labor Congress has been forwarded to H. J. Halford.

Fifty-three new members were initiated.

JUDGE LANGELIER HAD INSTRUCTIONS

Deputy Minister Newcombe
Admits This, but Calls
Them "Erroneous"

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)
Quebec, Feb. 23.—When Judge Charles Langelier of the Quebec Police Court let off absentees with no other penalty than a fine running between five and fifty dollars, he acted upon written instructions from the Federal Department of Justice.

This is the striking fact admitted in a communication received on Saturday from Mr. E. L. Newcombe, Deputy Minister of Justice, by Mr. Charles Lanctot, Assistant Attorney-General for Quebec Province.

It will be remembered that a few weeks ago Judge Langelier started to deal with absentees who had been authorized to appear before a civil tribunal, instead of appearing before a court-martial. He had been instructed in writing to deal leniently with absentees, receiving his instructions through Lieut.-Colonel Whitehead, Chief Inspector of the Federal Police in Quebec District.

When it became known that Judge Langelier dealt so kindly with absentees under the Military Service Act, certain papers in Ontario protested, saying that this Quebec tribunal showed too much leniency for the absentees, and there followed a hot argument and a sizzling incident between Judge Langelier and Mr. Newcombe, the latter stating Judge Langelier had no authority to let off absentees with so light fines.

Instructions Claimed "Erroneous."

Judge Langelier claimed that he had had written instructions to do so, and named Lieut.-Col. Whitehead as the authorized Federal officer who had given him the written instructions to do so, with the result that Saturday the Attorney-General of Quebec received from Mr. Newcombe a letter admitting that, in fact, Judge Langelier had been given the instructions he acted upon, but stating at the same time that said written instructions had been "erroneously" prepared, being in conflict with the orders given by the Federal authorities in Ottawa.

This statement from Mr. Newcombe consequently clears Judge Langelier of any possible doubt as to his intentions in dealing with the absentees, and appears to be giving an explanation of the recent dismissal of Lieut.-Col. Whitehead from his post of Chief Inspector of Federal Police at Quebec.

What Effect on Absentees Fined?

Now the question that arises is: Shall all the absentees that appeared before Judge Langelier see their fining annulled, or will they be allowed to remain in their present status, since they have submitted to the penalty imposed in good faith on them by the Judge of the Quebec Police Court?

This question is causing deep consternation throughout the entire district, where several hundred absentees thought their case definitely settled after paying a fine in the Police Court.

OUR CASUALTIES

Latest Figures by the Militia Department.

H. Zins - Feb 25 - 19

The latest figures issued by the Canadian Department of Militia and Defence show the number of Canadians taken prisoners of war to be:	
Officers	236
Other ranks	3,493
Total	3,729
Those killed in action:	
Officers	1,943
Other ranks	36,637
Total	38,580
Died of wounds:	
Officers	590
Other ranks	11,757
Total	12,347
Died of disease:	
Officers	246
Other ranks	3,961
Total	4,207
Presumed dead:	
Officers	146
Other ranks	4,551
Total	4,697
Number missing:	
Officers	33
Other ranks	333
Total	366
Number of deaths in Canada total	2,345.
Total number of Canadian prisoners of war repatriated to England up to Feb. 17, as follows:	
Officers	201
Other ranks	3,080
Total	3,281

Galster. Reply to Olive Branch - Feb 26-14

Previous speakers, he said, had made a plea for a united Canada. There had been serious internal strife in the Dominion, and Canada would never prosper, grow and develop unless statesmen would use their heads and hearts to the end that it be banished. There was a serious cleavage between the East and the West. He referred to the tariff cleavage. What was to be done about this? As a member from a Western constituency he could say that there was no doubt out there as to what the attitude of the people was on this important matter. All parties were united.

Mr. Calder then said that he wished to speak as one of the "separated brethren" in reply to "the olive branch" held out by the leader of the Opposition and Mr. McMaster of Brome. "There are quite a few of us here in the House," he said, "and a few thousands out in the country. Some one should say a word on their behalf."

He said that the people know why this Government was brought into being. Mr. Sinclair of Guysboro, would say that it was "conceived in iniquity and all the rest of it," but the people of Canada understood the reason. There was a principle at stake, and they differed honestly on that principle. He would say for himself, however, that he had never quarrelled with any man who differed with him on that question, but "it was a passing question," he declared, "it is gone. I hope conscription will never be necessary again. When we acted as we did we believed we did the right thing, and I don't believe our friends will quarrel with us when we make that statement, but we did the right thing. It was not easy to do what we did, but when a man has the conviction within himself that he did the right thing he don't need to worry."

M.S.A. OFFENDERS GET 6 HOURS' TERM

Others Were Fined \$25 Or
Less by Montreal

Court.
M+S. Feb 27-1914
Canadian Press.

Montreal, Feb. 26.—Judge Lanctot had before him in the Police Court this morning 60 men charged with being absentees under the Military Service Act. Ten cases were disposed of. All the young men admitted the charges against them. Judge Lanctot said he could not consider the men in the same class with murderers and thieves and send them to the jail with such criminals. He sentenced four of them to six hours in jail, two were fined \$25, two \$10 and two of them were discharged.

The clerk of the court advised all the young men to plead guilty and obtain a conviction which would render them exempt from further prosecution for their offence.

Judge Lanctot's remarks follow: "I must not send these men to jail, and when society is so eager to reclaim criminals, how can they expect me to confine men, otherwise good, with murderers, common burglars, inmates of disorderly houses, and criminals of the worst type who would act as bad influences upon them. Is this justice? Certainly not."

Judge Lanctot this afternoon dealt with the cases of three men who failed to report under the Military Service Act. One man was fined \$10 and two were discharged. In one instance there had been a mix-up of the defendant's papers, and Judge Lanctot remarked: "The military have shown very poor management in this case." Loud applause greeted this statement, and order was not restored in the court for several moments.

Doukhobors and Interests in Canada

DOUKHOBOR LANDS.

Veregin Signs to Sell All for Soldiers.

2 Times April 12-19
(Canadian Press Wire.)

Grand Forks, B. C., April 12.—Returned soldiers yesterday took a hand in the fight of the Grand Forks Reconstruction Board to secure the Doukhobor communities. At the suggestion of the returned veterans, the Doukhobor lands in Canada for soldier settlement, and went in a body to interview Peter Veregin, head of the Doukhobor leader, in the presence of five hundred of his followers, in the chapel of the colony here, signed an agreement to sell to the Government all Doukhobor lands in Canada, or to sell their lands in British Columbia and remove to more remote parts of the Dominion. This was the climax to a series of sensations which have followed each other in their train since the arrival of the Doukhobor chief in the district last Tuesday.

Doukhobor lands here embrace nearly 5,000 acres of the choicest land in the valley and, according to Peter Veregin, produced last year a surplus of over 100 carloads of food products to feed Doukhobors in other communities.

DOUKHOBOR LANDS.

Holdings in Canada Worth Two Millions.

H Times April 15-19

Grand Forks, B. C., April 14.—Peter Veregin, Doukhobor leader, discussing to-day with the Grand Forks Reconstruction Board the agreement which he had signed to sell Doukhobor lands in Canada for soldier settlement, stated roughly that the Doukhobor holdings in the Dominion were worth two million dollars. He stated that forty thousand acres are held by the sect in British Columbia, only a portion of which is productive; therefore, it would be necessary to sell all the land or none. He said eighteen thousand acres were purchased last year on which little had been paid, leaving indebtedness of a million dollars. The agreement drawn up and signed reads as follows:

"On behalf of the Christian community of Universal Brotherhood, Limited, I agree to sell all our lands in Canada to the Government for soldier settlement at a price to be agreed upon, or we will sell our lands in British Columbia at a price to be arranged, and we will remove to some remote part of the Dominion."

FEARS CONSPIRACY BY LAND GRABBERS

Sir Thomas White Rejoins Letter From Professor Mavor.

DOUKHOBOR PROPI

Claims They Are Exploited by Speculators and Politicians

McGill Express
Ottawa, May 3.—In the Commons yesterday Hon. Murphy drew the attention of Government to an operation which had been addressed to Thomas White by Prof. Mavor, of Toronto, which was a scandalous proceeding going on in British Columbia under the auspices of Dominion Government. Prof. said he had been stand that appraiser on the Doukhobor lands and other projects that they might be and the settled come up. The scheme, clearly a conspiracy of land speculators, and rival fruit farmers exploiting the return proposing to rob a able and industriou culiar people, of the industry. Mr. Murp Sir Thomas had to the matter.

Sir Thomas White received a copy of question of the ov lands seemed to hi provincial jurisdic the Minister of the reply with more kn situation.

Committee of Hon. Arthur Meighens of fact may are beyond what ca far as any inform reached me goes. mittee of enquiry in offered for sale in he added, by Mr. among lands report for sale are certain the Doukhobor com know whether the c vestigated these or to do so, however, with the view of e cause there are n powers now vested settlement board, n to vest the board expropriate lands n ably used. At the ti mittee was at work I telegram from Peter Veregin that he had made a c to sell, but that the same under duress. I drew the of the Soldiers' Settlement the telegram and I advised regin that if he had made any under duress he should consult solicitor in the matter."

IN DEFENSE OF THE DOUKHOBORS

A Letter From REV. DR. SALEM BLAND.

Globe May 7, 1919

I greatly misjudge the Canadian love of a square deal if Professor Mavor's impressive appeal to Sir Thomas White on behalf of the Doukhobors will not arouse widespread indignation. I believe Professor Mavor's statements are entirely accurate. I have visited the Doukhobor settlements in B. C., I knew Peter Veregin, and have not only had much conversation with him and other members of the Doukhobor community, but have lost no opportunity during the fifteen years and a half which I spent in the West of learning from friendly and unfriendly sources all I could in regard to this people.

This effort to force them out of their fruit farms in B.C., as told in the despatches from Grand Forks, B. C., that have been appearing from time to time during the last few weeks, had made me very uneasy. The impression given was that very unfair pressure was being applied. There is no longer any doubt of this, for the Hon. Mr. Meighen stated on Monday in the House that Peter Veregin had wired him that his consent to sell was given under duress. The Minister of the Interior stated that he had advised Mr. Veregin to consult his solicitor. But legal action is something forbidden to these people by their religious convictions. They feel bound by the words of Jesus to "resist not evil."

They have already, as Professor Mavor points out suffered at the hands of a preceding Government great wrong. The responsibility (which I will not attempt to apportion) lies in Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Frank Oliver, then Minister of the Interior. Of confronting them with the cruel alternatives of losing a large part of their land, much of it by them cleared and under cultivation, and all of it granted to them with the full knowledge of their communal mode of life, and also, one cannot but think, under the impression that it lay well beyond the region where English-speaking Canadians would care to settle, or of renouncing their religious convictions and living independently. Some under the pressure abandoned their faith, the most remained true, and the Canadian Government, under pressure from merchants of neighboring villages, greedy homesteaders and land speculators, broke faith and robbed the Doukhobors of more than 360,000 acres of land which, through the Doukhobors' highly successful agriculture, had become valuable.

This hostility of local merchants is due to the fact that the Doukhobors are a great co-operative body, and buy all their supplies wholesale in Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver. No people are better Canadians in one respect at any rate. All their money is spent in Canada. They live entirely on what they grow or make or is produced in Canada.

The same agencies that robbed them in Saskatchewan are now at work in B. C., but trying to work through the returned soldiers.

Deeply distrusting the Canadian Government and fearful of their title to the balance of their land, the Doukhobors have bought large tracts of land in B. C. in open market. Some of it was cleared, much of it covered with forest. With infinite toil and patience, men and women and children all working, they have cleared it of the heavy timber, planted thousands of fruit trees,

constructed irrigation works, put up a jam factory, built with their own labor (under direction) a noble suspension bridge at Brilliant. They have been compelled to buy more wheat land also to find homes for their people owing to the loss of the 360,000 acres. All these purchases have compelled them to live with pathetic meagreness. And now, no sooner have they the prospect of comfortable homes than they are to be driven off.

Many of them have of their own accord broken away from the community life and are amongst the most prosperous farmers of the West. There is no question but that at no distant date, treated fairly, they will all become naturalized. It is the fear of being compelled to engage in military service which has prevented them from becoming naturalized hitherto, and the bad faith of this Government in robbing them of their land has intensified the distrust of Governments which their century and men of sad but heroic endurance of governmental persecution in Russia has deeply implanted within them.

It would be foolish of Canada to drive them out. They are a people of fine physique, scrupulously cleanly in their persons and their homes, industrious and kindly. To them religion is brotherhood.

They are not generally educated in the conventional sense, but they are intelligent. They have become admirable wheat farmers and fruit growers. The constancy and idealism which have kept them true to their religious convictions need only fuller education to become a most valuable asset in our national life. The student leader at the University of Saskatchewan a few years ago was a Doukhobor.

But to take advantage of their political helplessness and their religious non-resistance to drive them out of Canada (for where else in Canada would they feel it safe again to settle?) would be much worse than folly. It would be an ineffaceable blot on the good name of Canada. I, for one, could never lift up my head as a Canadian so high again. I should feel Canada had placed herself in the class with Germany—not so deeply, but in the same class. We should have made of law and freedom mere "scraps of paper."

These people, it must be remembered, are nearly, or fully, half of them native Canadians. Eight thousand came about twenty years ago; they number fourteen thousand now. One of the despatches from Grand Forks spoke of Bolshevik views among them. As well ascribe Bolshevik views to Quakers, whom of all our Christian bodies—and none is more honored—they most closely resemble.

I cannot believe that our Government, brought into being to win the war, the supreme motive of which was to uphold compacts and establish justice and liberty, can become a party to this "Naboth's vineyard" scheme. Still less even do I think that the men who risked all and endured all that justice and liberty might prevail, when they know the facts will be willing to profit at the expense of a people helpless, indeed, but than whom a kindlier, more industrious and more peaceful people is not found in the Dominion, and a people who, though they could not fight, sent great quantities of fruit and jam for the comfort of the fighting men.

Doukhobors in Canada

DOUKHOBOR LANDS.

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FEARS CONSPIRACY BY LAND GRAB

Sir Thomas White R
Letter From Prof
Mavor.

DOUKHOBOR PROFITS Claims They Are Exploited by Speculators and Politicians

110 Empire
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Committee of
Hon. Arthur Meighen's assertions of fact may be beyond what can far as any information reached me goes. Committee of enquiry in offered for sale in he added, by Mr. among lands reported for sale are certain the Doukhobor committee know whether the investigated these or to do so, however, with the view of cause there are powers now vested settlement board, to vest the board expropriate lands not ably used. At the time committee was at work I received telegram from Peter Veregin that he had made a offer to sell, but that the same was under duress. I drew the attention of the Soldiers' Settlement Board to the telegram and I advised Mr. Veregin that if he had made any offer under duress he should consult his solicitor in the matter."

Germany contends that the block-

Total	\$13,650,500,000
The figures 1,768,000 opposite the item "To rebuild Germany means metric tons of food."	
Miscellaneous	1,768,000
"To rebuild emaciated	2,082,500,000
Industrial value of	1,000,000,000
stock	875,000,000
Population	7,250,000,000
"Feeding up" the	\$ 2,100,000,000
Loss of population's	
productivity	
Deaths due to malnutrition	
Loss of population's	
productivity	
Deaths due to malnutrition are estimated at 762,796.	

to counter the allied and American claims for damages the population suffered as a result of the submarine warfare with a bill for over \$13,000,000,000 due, she will contend, as compensation for injuries to the health of the German people and to the nation's strength arising from the "illegal blockade" which Germany many assets was imposed on her in violation of international law. Deaths due to malnutrition are estimated at 762,796.

the ship Mauretania, due at Halifax about

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Doukhobors and Interests in Canada

DOUKHOBOR LANDS.

Veregin Signs to Sell All for Soldiers.

H Jones April 12-19
 (Canadian Press Wire.)
 Grand Forks, B. C., April 12.—Returned soldiers yesterday took a hand in the fight of the Grand Forks Reconstruction Board to secure the Doukhobor communities. At the suggestion of the returned veterans, the Doukhobor lands in Canada for soldier settlement, and went in a body to interview Peter Veregin, head of the Doukhobor leader, in the presence of five hundred of his followers, in the chapel of the colony here, signed an agreement to sell to the Government all Doukhobor lands in Canada, or to sell their lands in British Columbia and remove to more remote parts of the Dominion. This was the climax to a series of sensations which have followed each other in their train since the arrival of the Doukhobor chief in the district last Tuesday.

Doukhobor lands here embrace nearly 5,000 acres of the choicest land in the valley and, according to Peter Veregin, produced last year a surplus of over 100 carloads of food products to feed Doukhobors in other communities.

DOUKHOBOR LANDS.

Holdings in Canada Worth Two Millions.

H Jones April 15-19
 Grand Forks, B. C., April 14.—Peter Veregin, Doukhobor leader, discussing to-day with the Grand Forks Reconstruction Board the agreement which he had signed to sell Doukhobor lands in Canada for soldier settlement, stated roughly that the Doukhobor holdings in the Dominion were worth two million dollars. He stated that forty thousand acres are held by the sect in British Columbia, only a portion of which is productive; therefore, it would be necessary to sell all the land or none. He said eighteen thousand acres were purchased last year on which little had been paid, leaving indebtedness of a million dollars. The agreement drawn up and signed reads as follows:

"On behalf of the Christian community of Universal Brotherhood, Limited, I agree to sell all our lands in Canada to the Government for soldier settlement at a price to be agreed upon, or we will sell our lands in British Columbia at a price to be arranged, and we will remove to some remote part of the Dominion."

FEARS CONSPIRACY BY LAND GRABBER

Sir Thomas White Receives Letter From Professor Mavor.

DOUKHOBOR PROPERTY Claims They Are Exploited by Speculators and

Mo Exp. May 6-19
 Ottawa, May 5.—In the House of Commons yesterday Hon. Charles Murphy drew the attention of the Government to an open letter which had been addressed to Sir Thomas White by Prof. James Mavor, of Toronto, which said there was a scandalous proceeding now going on in British Columbia ostensibly under the auspices of the Dominion Government. Prof. Mavor said he had been given to understand that appraisers were at work on the Doukhobor settlement at Grand Forks, B.C., valuating the lands and other property in order that they might be expropriated and the settled community broken up. The scheme, he said, was clearly a conspiracy on the part of land speculators, local politicians and rival fruit farmers, who were exploiting the returned soldiers and proposing to rob a group of peaceable and industrious, though peculiar people, of the fruits of their industry. Mr. Murphy asked what Sir Thomas had to say regarding the matter.

Sir Thomas White said he had received a copy of a letter and the question of the ownership of the lands seemed to him to be under provincial jurisdiction. However, the Minister of the Interior could reply with more knowledge of the situation.

Committee of Enquiry.

Hon. Arthur Meighen: "The assertions of fact made in that letter are beyond what can be justified so far as any information that has reached me goes. There is a committee of enquiry investigating lands offered for sale in British Columbia, he added, by Mr. Patterson, and among lands reported to be offered for sale are certain lands offered by the Doukhobor community. I do not know whether the committee has investigated these or not. Were they to do so, however, it would not be with the view of expropriation, because there are no expropriatory powers now vested in the soldiers' settlement board, nor is it proposed to vest the board with power to expropriate lands now being reasonably used. At the time that the committee was at work I received a telegram from Peter Veregin to the effect that he had made a certain offer to sell, but that the same was made under duress. I drew the attention of the Soldiers' Settlement Board to the telegram and I advised Mr. Veregin that if he had made any offer under duress he should consult his solicitor in the matter."

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 means metric tons of food.
 many contends that the block-

and politicians.
 After the great conflict, the world is
 sick of war. The best brains of the allies
 are just now engaged in devising means
 to render war impossible. For more than
 a hundred and fifty years the Doukhobors
 have protested against war and
 against all that leads to war. We have
 come round to their view. Yet now we
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 a greater example of hypocrisy could be
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