

# NATIONAL SCHOOLS ADVOCATED IN PARLIAMENT

## Orangemen and Catholics Discuss Non-Sectarian National Schools.

### EDWARDS TALKS

#### Hot Reply by Lemieux— Robb Says Protestants Satisfied.

Ottawa, May 14. The battle of the Boyne was fought over again in the House of Commons to-day when Ontario Orangemen and Quebec Roman Catholics clashed on the question of non-sectarian national schools. The first shot was fired by Dr. J. W. Edwards, of Frontenac, who favored the establishment of a "common system of schools where Roman Catholics and Protestants can grow up together." He contended that a non-sectarian school system would remove bigotry, bitterness and strife, eliminate the differences which tend to disrupt the country, and make for national harmony. He complained that Protestant children do not get a fair show in the primary schools of Quebec, and even in Orange Ontario if they are the weakest class numerically they go to the wall.

When he was accused of bigotry he defied anyone to quote any speech of his in which he had attacked any member's religion. "But," he added, "if the Roman, Anglican, Presbyterian or Methodist Church sticks its nose into public affairs I am going to hit that nose."

The chief Opposition whip, Mr. J. A. Robb, who is a Presbyterian living among French Catholics, felt that Dr. Edwards' scheme "will do no good and may do much harm." He said: "The Protestants of Quebec are perfectly satisfied with the educational system we now enjoy, but there is danger ahead if we establish national schools."

#### DEPENDS SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

A vigorous defence of Separate schools was delivered by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who in his peroration reminded the House that "the people of Quebec are Canadians since three hundred years, and our forefathers sleep their last sleep in God's Acre in the dear old Province on the banks of the St. Lawrence. We are not Anglo-Saxons. Saxon is German. We are British. We are Canadians to our marrow-bones, Canadians first last and all the time." He maintained that "this question was settled for us by the Act of Quebec in 1774, which is our Magna Charta," and he added, "we shall maintain intact the language that was given to us by our forefathers as long as there is beating within us a French-Canadian heart. It is the language of diplomacy, the language of Joffre and Foch."

A Federal Bureau of Education was advocated by Mr. H. C. Hocken of West Toronto, to remove illiteracy, secure uniform readers and histories and a liberal education for every child in the country. He had a keen desire to see Canada united and her children equipped for the great tasks which lie before them. He found fault with the readers used in the German schools of Saskatchewan because the "Watch on the Rhine" has a prominent place therein. Likewise, Quebec readers, printed in 1917, three years after the war started, contained few stories complimentary to Britain and many laudatory of Germany.

The debate was on a motion to go into supply and no formal amendment was moved.

#### INCREASE FOR POLICE.

Hon. N. W. Rowell, President of the Privy Council, has given notice of a resolution increasing rates of pay of the Northwest Mounted Police. In future they will be as follows: "Eight staff sergeants, each, per diem, \$3.00; other staff sergeants, each, per diem \$2.50; other non-commissioned officers, per diem, \$2.25; constables per diem, \$1.75; scouts, per diem, \$2.50; trumpeters and buglers, under eighteen years of age, per diem, \$1.25. Working pay to artisans and others specially employed, per diem 75c."

Life pensions are also provided in the resolution as follows:

(a) Ten but less than twenty-one years' service, one-fiftieth of annual pay and allowances for every year of service; (b) twenty-one but less than twenty-five years' service, an annual sum equal to twenty-fiftieths of annual pay and allowances, with an addition of two-fiftieths of such pay and

allowances for every completed year of service above twenty-five years; provided, that the pension shall not exceed two-thirds of his annual pay at his retirement.

The Commissioner is also authorized to organize a Royal Northwest Mounted Police reserve to consist of officers and men who have served in the force. Recruiting for the force is now in progress throughout Canada.

#### THE MATTER OF TITLES.

The report of the special committee on titles was submitted to the House at the opening of to-day's proceedings. Dr. Beland asked if the Government would set a day for its discussion.

Sir Thomas White replied that it was the desire of the Prime Minister and the Government that the question of titles should be considered as promptly as possible and the report discussed in the House. He would be glad to set Friday or Monday next for the purpose of discussing it.

Sir Sam Hughes—Friday and Monday? (Laughter.)

"Friday or Monday," Sir Thomas White corrected.

Mr. Fielding remarked that Monday was an inconvenient day to many members, and suggested that Sir Thomas and Mr. Nickle should arrange the date. Sir Thomas promised to make the announcement later as to the day of discussion.

#### TO CONFIRM PROHIBITION ORDER

Sir Thomas White introduced a bill to confirm the prohibition order-in-Council regarding the importation, manufacture and transportation of intoxicating liquor, the resolution regarding which was passed by the House yesterday. The bill was given first reading.

Mr. James Robb, the chief Liberal whip, brought up the question of Government legislation which had been foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne on Feb. 20. He mentioned specially the Franchise Bill, highways and vocational training. He said the House had been in session nearly three months and the resolution regarding highways had been brought down on March 24, but had not been proceeded with. On the Opposition side he thought they had not unduly hindered the passage of supply. For instance, they might have moved for the repeal of the War Times Election Act, but had not done so. They were rapidly approaching the situation when the right of the Opposition to move amendments on going into supply would be exhausted. He asked, therefore, what the intentions of the Government were regarding the legislation mentioned.

Sir Thomas White replied that his view was that through the co-operation of the Opposition they had been making extraordinary progress with legislation.

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# NATURALIZING OF THE ALIEN

## New Bill is Up Before the Parliament.

### Is Uniform With British Measure.

(Canadian Press Wire.)

Ottawa, June 18.—Sir Robert Borden, in the House of Commons this morning, presented the naturalization bill. The purpose of the bill is to consolidate therewith the provisions of the Imperial Act of 1914, as amended by the Imperial Act of 1918.

Provision is made under the bill for revocation of certificates of naturalization granted in Canada where such certificates have been obtained by fraud; where the holder has shown himself by act of speech to be disaffected or disloyal to His Majesty; or during the war unlawfully traded with the enemy; or was not of good character at the date of grant of the certificate; where he has continued to reside abroad for not less than seven years, and not maintained connection with His Majesty's dominions; where, according to the law of the state at war with His Majesty, the holder remains a subject of that state; finally, where the continuance of the certificate is not conducive to the public good.

Provision is also made for the naturalization of persons who served with the British forces in the war.

Mr. McKenzie, leader of the Opposition, remarked that, in view of the great importance of the measure, he feared it had been introduced at too late a date in the session. Possibly it might stand over for another session. Sir Robert Borden replied that the purpose of the bill was to make Canadian naturalization uniform with that of the United Kingdom. The provisions were framed with that purpose, and did not depart in any important respect from the provisions of the Imperial Act of last year. It was extremely important that the proposals should be carried into effect at the earliest date.

The bill was read a first time.

On the orders of the day, D. D. McKenzie said he had seen a rumor to the effect that strike leaders and participants arrested in Winnipeg were to be removed to Kingston penitentiary. He wished to know if this were correct.

Sir Robert Borden replied that he had heard nothing of the kind, and he thought it was merely a press rumor.

# JEW ASKS MEMBER TO OPPOSE AMENDMENTS

## CLAIMS LITERACY NOT BEST TEST FOR SELECTION OF IMMIGRANTS.

Globe Staff 2-1919.  
(Special Despatch to the Globe.)

Bellefleur, May 1.—Harry Yanover, one of the leading Jewish merchants of this city, has forwarded a telegram to Ottawa to Mr. E. G. Porter, M.P. for West Hastings, asking him to support objections to Immigration Act amendments particularly from the standpoint of the Jews. Mr. Yanover contends that literacy is not the most efficient method of selecting immigrants; that energy, ambition and industry make the best citizens, and education follows opportunity. An immigrant's attitude towards autocratic lands of his birth is no criterion of desirability for citizenship, except of a few extremists. The great mass of Jewry has always been a powerful element behind moderate policies. Canada's welfare opposes, Mr. Yanover claims, the adoption of Section 13, permitting the exclusion of a whole nationality, race, religion, sect or occupation. Loss of domicile after five years' absence was considered undesirable. Three-quarters of the Jewish people live in allied countries, and have contributed their share of sacrifice, and should be recognized as a distinct people.

with by the treasurer 3010.

## ACT TO BAR DESERTERS.

While the members of the Legislature were agreed as to the desirability of disqualifying defaulters and deserters under the Military Service Act, they argued for an hour and a half last night as to the proper definition of the words "deserter" and "defaulter." Finally the bill was put in such form as to meet these technical objections.

Hon. Mr. Lucas stated that the act dealt with three classes of defaulters. There were those men who "being liable for service were called out, and without lawful excuse failed to report;" and those who "being ordered to report for duty or medical examination under the M.S.A. failed to do so;" and those who "had entered the service and afterward became deserters."

Mr. Proudfoot, the Opposition Leader, contended that while he was thoroughly in accord with having those who failed to serve their country dealt with as provided for in the act, it was contrary to the British constitution that a man should be considered guilty before he had been proven so.

Government speakers said that while this might be true there were many men who had taken to the woods and had not been caught. It was felt by Mr. Beniah Bowman, of Manitoulin, that the names of defaulters should not go on the voters' lists at all.

Discussion of the punishment to be inflicted on those convicted under the act followed. Mr. Allan Studholme, of East Hamilton, referred to the Skidmore case in Stratford, and said the measure would provide for punishment of persons convicted of seditious or treasonable offences. While Skidmore had been released after a short period in jail his conviction stood and he would be disfranchised.

The Attorney-General admitted that occasionally there might be an individual case where hardship would result, but his answer was that individual cases could be cited against any law of general application. The bill was finally passed.

# KAY



15 to 31 King St. E.

## the Sale Starts

throughout the length of all months which lots

### Month-End Sale of Bedspreads, Towels

Slightly soiled, and goods offer a real opportunity for those who are sure to receive Single, Three-quarter English and American Irish embroidery. \$20.00. Month-price ..... 15 Large Size Si panels with centres Colors are French soiled. Regularly price ..... Clean-up of Soiled Towels on folds, striped wash and wear well. Month-end price ..... number of Special price

DR. 2.

Hon. D. speaking in a he adjures the measure which w. dian citizens of the p. franchise. He has been partisanship by his war sufferings. Few Canadian in a position to speak with such and authority.

Despatches from Ottawa contain that an educational test will be a feature of the new franchise bill which will replace the War Times Election Act. The question of applying a test of this kind to immigrants entering Canada in future is within the competence of Parliament to decide. Such an enactment might be unsound policy, but it would involve no breach of faith. It would put disabilities on aliens, but not on Canadian citizens. But a test which would bar from the polls scores of thousands of European-born Canadians already in the country would be both injurious and unjust. The majority of the foreign-born in Canada came here at the solicitation of the Government and the people, to fill the waste spaces and make the country more productive and prosperous. To deprive them of the elementary right of citizenship, the ballot, would be a wrong which would rankle in their minds for a lifetime, and would make more difficult the problem of governing the Dominion. Many of them are at an age at which it is impossible for them to acquire any proficiency in the use of English. It would be no advantage from a Canadian point of view to impose on them a literacy test in their own language. If they do not know English they are cut off from Canadian sources of information and from the current of Canadian sentiment. The fault is not theirs, but ours, in having invited them to make their homes in Canada and given them the privileges of citizenship. They should not now be made to bear the consequences of our own impolicy. We ought to be willing to pay the penalty, if there be any, for the sake of our national honor, which was pledged to them when we gave them their naturalization papers. At least their children are learning English and bringing Canadian influences and ideas into their homes, but if the parents are robbed of the franchise, which they regard as the sign and seal of political equality, their grievances will tend to counteract the good work of the schools, the churches, and the other agencies that are trying to make genuine Canadians of the rising generation. The Globe sees no reason to recede from the position it took when the War Times Election Act was introduced. On September 7, 1917, it said editorially:

"The attack on the political rights of a large group of foreign-born Canadians is tempered by their exemption from combatant service, but the principle of the bill is wrong. It is inconsistent with national honor and British traditions. When men of alien birth were given their naturalization papers they were given the full privileges of Canadian citizenship. It was a contract to which the good faith of the country was pledged. The bill will cancel the chief article of the contract without proof that the voter has forfeited it by conduct unbecoming a patriotic Canadian. The presumption of innocence until guilt be proved, which underlies the common law, is reversed. It is true that the disability applies only to men who have been naturalized within the past fifteen years, but the country offered them the franchise three years after their arrival in order to hasten the process of Canadianizing them."

Again on September 22, 1917, The Globe pointed out the danger of partisan manipulation of the franchise:

"Any Government, with the aid of a slavish Parliament, could maintain itself in office long after it had lost public confidence by the simple expedient of disfranchising groups of voters. The War Times Election Act, which is an arbitrary invasion of the political rights of law-abiding Canadian citizens, is Prussian, not British, in principle. It is a stain on Canada's good name and good faith."

Had not the franchise question been overshadowed by the greater issue involved in the Military Service Act and the desperate need of reinforcing the Canadian divisions at the front, Liberals who supported conscription would not have tolerated the disfranchisement of naturalized citizens, but they depended on the promise of the Government that the measure would be repealed when the war ended. They will not countenance an attempt to perpetuate some of its worst features in a new law.

Most of the so-called enemy aliens deprived of the vote were not enemy aliens at all, but belonged to sub-nationalities within the Austrian Empire which have since been given the status of nations as allies of the Allies. There has been a Bolshevik element among the Ukrainians in the cities and towns of Canada, but nearly all the members of this race are farmers, who have no sympathies which clash with their duties as loyal Canadians. To disfranchise a great number of the foreign-born settlers in

Franchise a Serious Question.  
 20th Nov 1919

The former Postmaster-General directed attention next to the franchise question. "Canada is as sensitive on that as on autonomy. They are two of the ideals upon which rests the magnificent structure of Canada. The interference with either the autonomy of Canada or the franchise will lead to further unrest and further disaffection. If we want to avoid in this country the social upheavals which have been a plague to some of the European countries, we must be mightily cautious and careful when we come to consider the question of autonomy and the franchise." It was impossible for him to pronounce upon the Franchise Bill, which is to be introduced in the House soon, for he was not familiar with its provisions. He asked, however, if the War Times Election Act had been popular in Canada, and if it had accomplished much good.

#### War Times Election Act.

"By the War Times Election Act thousands of men have been deprived of their franchise, whether it was directly by the clauses of the law or by the administration of the law I am unable to say. But it has been possible for me to reach the conclusion that thousands of good citizens were unable to register their votes at the last election and that this law was responsible for it. Whatever this law has accomplished it was an unfortunate one. Let not the gentlemen present consider my words as meaning that the full rights and privileges of citizenship should be granted to men who are not in full sympathy with our established institutions and with our ethics of nationhood. Nothing could be farther remote from my intention. But I say this, that the war has been fought by the allied powers, and the conviction prevails that instead of restricting liberty, liberty should be extended. It would be an unwise move for any Government to submit any law to Parliament that would unduly deprive one real Canadian citizen from this most precious privilege of the franchise. A franchise law in the hands of a Government may be as dangerous a weapon against liberty as the sword in the hand of an autocratic ruler. (Applause). No one in this country desires, I hope, to disfranchise men who happen not to share their political views as to the conduct of public affairs. It would be a sad hour indeed if one were brought to the conviction that this war had reduced the liberties of the people."

### War in Manitoba on Mennonite Schools

Little English Being Taught—  
Parents Fined for Sending Children.

Morden, Man., March 28.—Six residents of Wakeham School district were fined by the magistrate for a breach of the school attendance law. Their children were not attending the Public school, but were at a private school in which very little English is being taught. In cases which were first offences \$10 was imposed, and in the second offence \$20. Two of the parents paid the fine, but four of them refused to do so, and are being detained in jail.

This is the second time parents in this school district have been prosecuted. The schools are being carried on by the Mennonites, and the Provincial Government is prosecuting.

### GERMAN BOOKS ONLY IN SCHOOL

Test Case to Be Taken to Privy Council

On Mennonite Schools in the West

Winnipeg, July 10.—The Mennonite school case, which is to decide whether Mennonites will be allowed to retain their present system of education, including the teaching of German, is to be taken to the Privy Council of the House of Lords.

The test case will begin next Wednesday morning. Both sides have collected a mass of evidence, and no matter what the decision of the local court is, the question will be taken to the final court of appeal of the British Empire.

The Crown will present evidence to show that in Mennonite schools the only books in use are a Lutheran Bible, printed in German, and some patent medicine almanacs in the same language.

There are nine cases to come up for hearing Wednesday, each being a charge against a parent for failing to send his children to school. The province takes the ground that the institutions at which certain Mennonite children are taught do not come under the classification of schools, according to the Act.

### MENNONITES FOUND GUILTY

In Manitoba Test Case On Educational Rights.

Will Be Appealed to Privy Council.

Winnipeg, July 17.—Guilty with a fine of \$5 and costs, was the judgment given in the cases of eleven Mennonites charged with unlawfully neglecting to send their children to school or to make satisfactory provision for their education, by Magistrate C. W. Milne, of Morden, Manitoba, in the law courts this afternoon. The charges, which were laid by the Government of Manitoba, constitute a test of whether the Mennonites are immune from the Acts of the Provincial Government so far as education is concerned or not. One of the eleven cases will be appealed as a test case and will be taken by the Mennonites to the highest judicial authority in the Empire—the Privy Council.

The Mennonites who appealed as defendants all belong to the same colony near Morden and Gretna, Manitoba. The first difference in views between the particular Mennonite colony represented in court and the Provincial Government occurred in 1907, when the Roblin Government enacted legislation making it compulsory for all public schools in the Province to fly the Canadian flag. The Mennonites decided that they could not do this on account of their religious principles, and in consequence reverted to the private school class, in which they did not receive the Government grant. In 1913 they reconsidered this decision, and flew the flag, thus becoming once again a public school.

In 1916, when the School Attendance Act was passed making it compulsory that English be taught in all the schools of the Province, they once again reverted to the private school standing. The Department of Education, however, forced the matter, insisting that their children should be taught the English language. On May 1st of this year the Department sent a teacher to the Houston school, but it was shown in evidence that during the time he was at the school, from May 1st until the latter part of June, the attendance was nil. The Government then took action against some of the principal Mennonite citizens.

The defence in the action, as put forward by counsel, was that the Dominion Government by an order-in-Council had granted the Mennonites on their arrival in Canada in 1874, "the fullest privileges of exercising their religious principles and educating their children, thus provided by law, without any kind of molestation or restriction whatever." The prosecution, however, claimed that there was no statute in which an order-in-Council could be issued, nor was there any statute under which the Federal Government could enter into such an agreement.

### MENNONITES A

Will Carry School Privy Council

Winnipeg, July 28.—No appeal has been entered in two Mennonite farmers Morden district who, along with other Mennonites were a breach of the Manitoba Attendance Act recently. Judgment between the court enforcement of the other provisions will be withheld until appeal is settled one way. It is understood that if appeal in the province recent decision, the case will be taken direct to the Privy Council of Canada.

### MENNONITES

Winnipeg, Aug. 6.—Taking the Provincial, and Dominion Government has jurisdiction over educational matters in Manitoba and that the School Attendance Act can be applied to Mennonites. The Court of Appeal yesterday hearing counsel for the Mennonites decided to dismiss an appeal on behalf of the Mennonites from convictions of violating the Attendance Act. The decision was made in writing at an early hour. It is understood that the case will be taken to the Privy Council.

### MENNONITES MUST OBEY LAW

Court Says Sect Has No Special School Rights.

Province is Supreme in These Matters.

Winnipeg, Aug. 12.—Mennonites in the Province of Manitoba have no educational privileges not extended to all citizens, according to a judgment handed down to-day by the Manitoba Court of Appeal. The rights, which the Mennonites have heretofore claimed, to educate their children as they pleased, are based on "authority" from the Federal Government given in 1873, which the court declares are beyond the power of Parliament to confer.

The court refused an application for permission to carry an appeal from this decision over the Supreme Court of Canada to the Privy Council, holding that the matter was so clear to the minds of the members of the court that they did not feel that they should interfere with the usual course of appeal. The matter came before the court by way of appeal from a conviction of John Hildebrand and Dedrick Doerkson, by Magistrate Milne at Morden on July 17.

By the judgment the court decides that the Government intended to give the Mennonites, as they claim, the right to their own schools, but that even if this had been done the Dominion Government would have no such power, as the Province of Manitoba has the exclusive right to deal with matters appertaining to education. It is therefore held that the Government of Manitoba had the right to pass the School Attendance Act.

It is further decided by the judgment that the School Attendance Act is binding on the Mennonites, and that they must attend the schools in accordance with the terms of the law. The court, by its judgment, further holds that even if the Dominion Government had passed a statute giving the Mennonites the right that they claim, that such an Act would be beyond the power of the Parliament, and in no way interfere with the rights of the Province of Manitoba to deal with educational matters as it had done.

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### On Mennonite Schools in the West.

*Ham Sun July 11-12*

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The test case will begin next Wednesday morning. Both sides have collected a mass of evidence, and no matter what the decision of the local court is, the question will be taken to the final court of appeal of the British Empire.

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The Mennonites who appealed as defendants all belong to the same colony near Morden and Gretna, Manitoba. The first difference in views between the particular Mennonite colony represented in court and the Provincial Government occurred in 1907, when the Roblin Government enacted legislation making it compulsory for all public schools in the Province to fly the Canadian flag. The Mennonites decided that they could not do this on account of their religious principles, and in consequence reverted to the private school class, in which they did not receive the Government grant. In 1913 they reconsidered this decision, and flew the flag, thus becoming once again a public school.

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The defence in the action, as put forward by counsel, was that the Dominion Government by an order-in-Council had granted the Mennonites on their arrival in Canada in 1874, "the fullest privileges of exercising their religious principles and educating their children, thus provided by law, without any kind of molestation or restriction whatever." The prosecution, however, claimed that there was no statute in which an order-in-Council could be issued, nor was there any statute under which the Federal Government could enter into such an agreement.

# MENNONITES APPEAL.

## Will Carry School Case to Privy Council.

Winnipeg, July 28.—Notice of appeal has been entered in the case of two Mennonite farmers from the Morden district who, along with nine other Mennonites were convicted of a breach of the Manitoba School Attendance Act recently. An arrangement between the counsel, the enforcement of the other nine convictions will be withheld until the appeal is settled one way or the other. It is understood that if the court of appeal in the province sustains the recent decision, the two cases will be taken direct to the Privy Council, without a hearing before the Supreme Court of Canada.

# MENNONITES LOSE

(Associated Press Wire.)

Winnipeg, Aug. 6.—Taking the view that the Provincial, and not the Dominion Government has jurisdiction in educational matters in this province and that the School Attendance Act can be applied to Mennonites, the Court of Appeal yesterday, without hearing counsel for the province, decided to dismiss an appeal brought on behalf of the Mennonites against its convictions of violating the School Attendance Act. The decision will be issued in writing at an early date.

It is understood that the case will be taken to the Privy Council.

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(See also Mennonites & Immigration)

# Hutterites and Immigration to Canada

**AN INFLUX OF HUTTERITES.**  
 Ottawa, April 15.—The situation concerning the migration of Hutterites and Mennonites from the United States into the Prairie Provinces of Canada grows more acute daily. The president of the Alberta G.W.V.A. left Calgary yesterday to come to Ottawa to make a plea to the Government to take immediate action to avert trouble and possible bloodshed.

Telegrams are pouring into G. W. V. A. headquarters, asking that protests be made to the Government to prevent any more Hutterites coming into the country.

**SOME OF THE RESOLUTIONS.**

The appointment of a dentist to look after the teeth of returned men at Kitchener; that all farmers who secured exemption for that reason be forced to remain on the farm in order to leave the city job for city men; that the Gillies Timber Limit be expropriated and thrown over to settlers, soldiers to have first chance; that the following meetings of veterans open with prayer; that pension-

*G.W.V.A. of Hamilton  
 Aug-1919*

Comrade D. Loughnan, editor of The Veteran, gave a summary of the work of the Dominion executive, and of the needs of the paper. He claimed the settlement of the Hutterite question as the greatest victory of the association yet, and said that the Government had tried to bluff it out, although warned of trouble some time ago.

Incidentally he claimed that the total membership of the G. W. V. A. now exceeded 100,000.

ers' widows be allowed to draw their pensions unless they remarry; and that employers be compelled to employ a certain number of crippled veterans at the same wage as others; were some of the resolutions endorsed by the convention and handed over to the Executive.

**HUTTERITES STILL COMING**

*H. Wade  
 Aug. 2, 1919*

(Canadian Press Wire.)  
 Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 2.—The Manitoba Free Press this morning publishes a letter from H. Gerald Wade, J. P., which states that Hutterites are still coming into Canada. Mr. Wade adds that he has it on good authority that in the next few days, unless some speedy action is taken, 4,000 more acres of some of the finest land in Manitoba will pass into the hands of the Hutterites.

## VETERANS URGE THE DEPORTATION OF HUTTERITES

Petition Borden for Expulsion From Manitoba

*Mrs J W Brennen  
 18 April 21  
 Wineland*

G.W.V.A. Action Has Support of Elie Residents

### Want Land Opened For Soldiers' Settlement

*Harmon, 1919*

From Our Own Correspondent  
 Winnipeg, Aug. 5.—"The Great War Veterans' association is out for the clearance of the Hutterites from the province." This was the statement of Warwick C. Angus, secretary of the provincial command, last night, when asked if there had been any developments in connection with the telegrams sent to Premier Borden on Saturday, protesting against the alleged recurrence of the Hutterite immigration from the United States.

Commenting on the statement made on Saturday by Thos. Gelley, acting commissioner of immigration, that no Hutterites had been allowed to cross the border since the Dominion government some time ago passed prohibitory legislation, Angus said the G. W. V. A. did not care whether this was the case or not. The association regarded the Hutterites as undesirable settlers, and demanded that, no matter when they came to this province, they be deported and their land made available for soldier settlement. The association also demanded that an investigation be held with the object of ascertaining who was responsible for bringing the Hutterites in the first place to Elie, Man.

The reports that Hutterites were still crossing the international boundary in large numbers and taking up farm lands in Manitoba aroused the Great War Veterans' association to action on Saturday. Telegrams protesting strongly against the failure to endorse the order-in-council and prevent the entrance of the Hutterites in large numbers and their taking up farm sections from Canadians were sent to the Dominion government by the association on Saturday. The veterans claim the Hutterites are Germans. R. W. Craig, president of the Canadian club, said that organization would act in the matter.

### RESIDENTS OPPOSED

Hutterites are entering through Elie, Manitoba, on the C. N. R., it is said, and 20 families are expected to arrive at that place within the next few days. "Farm residents in that district assert their determination to be rid of the Hutterite menace which is threatening to crowd them off their land," says H. Gerald Wade, J.P., Saturday. "They have already protested to the government, but, despite this, more than 3,000 acres were secured by the community this week—lots eight to nineteen—and I have it on good authority that in the next few days, unless speedy action is taken, 4,000 more acres of some of the finest land in Manitoba will pass into their hands."

Demand has also been made for an immediate investigation to ascertain person or persons responsible for the admission of these Hutterites to the province, more particularly during the last few days, contrary to the order-in-council.

Feeling is very high among returned men on this question, as they feel that they have not been given a fair deal by the government. The Great War Veterans are determined that no more Hutterites will come into Manitoba even if extreme measures have to be adopted. They will endeavor to find out to whom the land belonged originally, the history of the deal by which it was acquired by the Hutterites, and what interest Senator Aime Benard has in it.

### WAR VETERANS PETITIONED

Seventy-five farmers at Elie, Man., incensed at the acquisition of land in that district by the Hutterites, sent a petition, printed in English and French, to the Great War Veterans, with a demand endorsing the action of the G. W. V. A. in demanding a royal commission of investigation on the sale of land to these Hutterites.

The petition demands that the Hutterites in that community be made to move and that the land be sold to returned soldiers at a fair market price, by Dec. 1, 1919.

The petition to the war veterans reads: "Residents of the district of Elie in Manitoba, hereby bring to your notice the following facts and statements, with a request for immediate action on your part:

- "(1) Several colonies of Hutterites have already settled in this neighborhood.
- "(2) They are a detriment to the locality, and being undesirable settlers interfere with our rights as Canadian citizens.
- "(3) We are glad that the Dominion government has prohibited the entry of any more Hutterites. At the same time this government has not rectified its mistake of the past, having merely announced its intention to discontinue this mistake in the future. The Hutterites already settled in this locality must be made to move out."

**HARRY KUWIN**

## WHO WILL LABOR WHEN FOREIGNER RETURNS HOME?

This is Question Asked by One Who Moves Among Them.

*Ham Isis July 17, 1919*

**PUT THEM ON LAND**

And Keep Their Savings as Well as Their Labor in Canada.

B. Shannon, manager of the Goodman Banking & Steamship Company, of this city, gave the interview relative to the foreign emigration question when interviewed by a Times reporter this morning. Mr. Shannon is in touch with not only the local foreigners, but those of Montreal, Toronto and the larger cities throughout the Dominion. "Canada," said he, "more than any country in North America, during the war as well as before it, has experienced the shortage of labor. We all know of the attractive offers Canada has made to foreigners in order to have them come here and take part in the building up of Canadian industrialism, and we know also of the high prices they were paid during the war. Through war experience we have learned that labor is as essential to industry as are capital and brain. The laborer is the foundation of the building of industrial plants, railroads, mines, etc. The work which the European laborer will do will never be performed by the Anglo-Saxons, yet this work must be done by someone. No doubt many of these foreigners have lost their jobs now, and there are a great number of unemployed among them, but this is all due to the fact that the wheels of industry are not yet in motion, and the work of reconstruction, which will no doubt exceed all pre-war records, is not yet fully begun. Many of the returned men have not gone back to their old jobs on account of being able to live on their gratuities, or for want of rest, or being unable to perform the same work they were accustomed to, or that there are no such vacancies open at the present time for them. Canada, which is a strong industrial country for its size, with more land than it can take care of, should try and see that it utilizes every bit of labor available, and instead of placing restrictions on immigration as they are trying to do in the United States, should restrict emigration for reasons stated here. The situation is not the same in Canada as it is across the line; we are not the melting pot of nations that they are.

"During the war we have had many campaigns and economy agitations, which the foreigners have adhered to to the best of their ability. The average foreigner has about \$200 cash in his possession; this means an aggregate of about \$5,000,000 in alien hands. It is all good money earned here during the time of war, and even though it was well earned by them, why let it go out of the country and be distributed among the Bolshevik nations and be used for such dangerous propaganda as is becoming a menace to the world at large? Could it not be used to much better purpose here? Why not place restriction on emigration and see that the money is invested in land? These foreigners, who are good farmers, could invest their money in land, bring their families here and help cultivate some of Western Canada, which is badly in need of it. They could have their own settlements, educate their offspring in schools provided for them and pay for them. They could work in various factories which will in time of reconstruction practically depend on them, where there is anticipated immense production. The fact that many an American capitalist is investing here and is willing to add to Canadian industry will doubtless result in gain and success for the country. To prove this statement it is only necessary to look back to the pre-war period and also to the time of duration of the war. Perhaps this would eliminate the necessity of another loan. Why not spend the money consumed for a war loan campaign in propaganda which will bring better results to the country in the long run? Have we not sufficient land in Canada to offer these foreigners? It would seem from all reports that we have surplus of uncultivated territory. Is it not to the country's benefit that all of our land should be cultivated instead of remaining idle and the crops not being enriched by it. Why not have the harvesting and agricultural machine manufacturers co-operate and offer their implements on easy terms to these people, who would appreciate such a chance? They are good, diligent workers, and are only too willing to do it if they be given the opportunity. At the present time the public sentiment is greatly against the foreigners, and they feel that they are not wanted here, and are waiting impatiently for an opening of navigation when each and every one will return to his native land. I know these people well, and I frankly say that I fully expect these predictions will come true should we take the necessary steps. It is the manufacturer's interest, as well as the Government's, and therefore it would be wise to act immediately to save the pillars of production and good Canadian money from peril. We look upon the foreigners as ignorant and unsanitary people; let us go to work and educate them and their offspring, and scrub them until they are sanitary that they may become an asset to us."

Canada lately about a Mennonite invasion. These people are flocking into western Canada from the United States, because they believe that their main article of faith—abstention from military service—will be respected in this country. Such a belief is based upon the circumstance that the early Mennonite settlers, who came to Canada from Russia in 1873, were granted perpetual immunity from military service by the Dominion government of that period, which privilege extends to their descendants, as an inducement for them to emigrate.

The Mennonites are in a peculiar category. They are a peaceful, prosperous, inoffensive body, and it would be harsh treatment indeed to force them to violate their conscience by conscripting them into the army, even though these new arrivals do not come strictly within the provisions of the order of 1873. Like the Quakers, they are entitled to special consideration, on account of the antiquity of their faith. They are no army dodgers, rushing to connect themselves with a newfangled religion, merely as a cloak for their unpatriotic selfishness or cowardice. The Mennonites take their name from Menno Simons, who was born in Friesland in 1492. The only authority recognized amongst themselves is the Bible, and though they scrupulously obey the civil laws of the country in which they reside, it is one of the principles of their religion to abstain as far as possible from all litigation. The Mennonite settlers in Canada and the United States came originally from Russia, whither they fled from Germany to escape the rigors of Prussian military law in 1786, being granted full religious liberty by the empress Catherine II. In 1903 the total number of Mennonite adherents throughout the world was given as some 250,000, of whom 80,000 were in the United States, 70,000 in Russia, 60,000 in Holland, 20,000 in Canada, 18,000 in Germany, 1,500 in Switzerland, 800 in France, and the same number in Poland and Galicia.

There is one aspect of the Mennonite invasion which is particularly irksome to the westerners, and that is the language question. These religionists speak a German dialect, which they are zealous to preserve, as a means of keeping them a select community. Much as the Roman Catholics employ Latin. The younger members of the order, however, are not so scrupulous in this regard, conducting their simple church services in the English tongue. In one of the older Canadian Mennonite communities, not far from Hamilton, here are two buildings placed side by side, in one of which—favored by the older members of the congregation—the services are rendered in the native language, while in the other—which the younger members

# PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES

Mennonite Archives of Ontario

(Fourth Article) By W. L. Smith

*Farmer's Journal April 8, 1922*

In the summer of 1877 Lord Dufferin, then Governor-General of Canada, paid a visit to the principal Mennonite settlement at that time, recently formed in Manitoba. While on this visit His Excellency made a sketch of a windmill and some buildings in the settlement.

The Globe and Canada Farmer of April 12th, 1878, reproduced His Excellency's sketch and gave at the same time a full page story of the Mennonites and their settlement in what was then the practically virgin territory of the western plains.

The Mennonite organization, according to The Globe's story, originated nearly 400 years ago, their first leader, Simon Menno, having formerly been a Catholic. "They have ever been," the story quoted from says, "a sober, industrious, law-abiding and God-fearing people." Of the Manitoba settlement itself we are further told, "Not one head of a family can be called an absolutely poor man. They are a thrifty people, anxious to get rich in this world's goods, but making this desire subservient to 'laying up treasure where moth and rust do not corrupt nor thieves break through and steal.'" One fact bears eloquent testimony to their honesty. When the Mennonites came to Canada the Dominion government loaned them \$100,000 at six per cent., the Mennonites of Ontario becoming responsible for repayment. Every dollar of that loan was repaid—a very different story from that of some other government loans to assist in western settlement.

## The Mennonite Belief.

In speaking of Mennonite principles The Globe writer of 1878 says: "They profess and practice the doctrine of forgiveness as expounded in the Sermon on the Mount. They recognize civil government and regard it as a necessity of the present state of society, but are opposed to war for any purpose whatever and fight only with weapons which are not carnal."

## Persecuted for Their Faith.

It is because these people have acted upon their interpretation of Christ's teachings that they have been forced to abandon home after home which their labor had created. Originating in Germany about the time of the Reformation, religious and military persecution in due time forced them to seek a home elsewhere. Early in the seventeenth century several hundreds migrated to the colony founded by Penn in the Juaker state, and a hundred years later many descendants of these Pennsylvania Mennonites moved to the then wilderness of York, Haldimand and Waterloo counties and laid the foundations of what have since become among the most prosperous sections in agricultural Ontario.

## A Pledge That Was Broken.

Subsequent to the formation of the first Pennsylvania settlement, a large colony of Mennonites moved from Germany to Russia in response to an invitation given by the Czar day. As an inducement to

move the then Czar "offered them complete and perpetual immunity from military exactions of every kind." the Czar making this promise because he knew the Mennonites "to be an agricultural and industrious people," whom he was anxious to obtain for the development of the agricultural resources of that part of his dominions near the Black Sea. For nearly a century the promise made those who removed to Russia was faithfully kept. Then another king arose who knew not Joseph and the promise was broken, but not broken hurriedly or with unbearable hardship. The Mennonites in Russia were given ten years in which to dispose of their holdings and an assurance of a passport permitting removal whithersoever they would.

## U. S. Sought Them.

The United States Ambassador at St. Petersburg, hearing all of this, notified his government "that these people would be very desirable colonists and that inducements ought to be held out to them to remove to the United States." The suggestion was voted upon. American agents were forthwith despatched to southern Russia and the result of their operations was a considerable settlement of Mennonites in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and Dakota."

## Canada Also Invited Them.

About the same time William Hespeler, of Waterloo county, was serving as Dominion emigration agent in Alsace-Lorraine, then recently re-annexed to Germany as a result of the war of 1870-1. Hespeler had been long resident in Waterloo where he knew the virtues of the Mennonite settlers in that county and he suggested to his government the advisability of drawing more of the same kind from those about to be expatriated from Russia. "He was at once authorized to proceed to Russia," The Globe story goes on, "and lay before the disciples of Simon Menno the facts with reference to the Prairie Province. . . . He prospered so well in his undertaking that a committee of Mennonites were sent to Manitoba to view the country. The government "guaranteed that if the Mennonites should elect to take up their abode in the Dominion they should forever be exempt from the performance of military duty and have full liberty to conduct their churches and schools according to their own customs."

On the faith of that promise the Mennonites came. Their pioneer work proved the capabilities of the prairies from an agricultural standpoint and by so doing undoubtedly hastened the work of general settlement. They kept their pledge but the pledge given by our government has been broken, in less time than the pledge given by a Russian Czar was broken, and now these people are being forced to seek a new home in Mexico.

## Would Have Merged in Time.

There is certainly an objection to having a community isolated from the rest of the country in language and schools, but this isolation the Mennonite colony of Manitoba would, even in the absence of coercion by law, have been unable to maintain indefinitely. The surging human tide all about these people would in time, without any violation of a pledge solemnly given, have had the same effect that a like tide has had in New York, in Haldimand, and in Waterloo, and the Mennonites of Manitoba, like the Mennonites of Ontario, would have become a part of the general community in language and educational concerns. Like the Mennonites of Ontario they doubtless would have remained true to their faith and have continued to accept in its entirety the command "Thou shalt not kill." But I would put this simple question to those ministers who have accepted the command to go into all the world and preach the gospel as expounded in the Sermon on the Mount—is that a justification for treating as a scrap of paper a promise solemnly given by our government and on the faith of which these people came here? One other observation: On a recent Sunday from every pulpit in Ontario came fervid appeals for assistance to starving Russians in Russia. Right. But is no word of sympathy to come from these same pulpits for those Russianized-Germans lately in this country who have thrice been forced to abandon their homes and the graves of their fathers for conscience sake?