

UNMOVED BY BISHOP BUDKA'S CALL TO ARMS.

To the Editor of the Free Press.

Sir,—I have read your editorial of August 5 on "The Anti-Canadian Nationalism of the Canadian Ukraine," and the episcopal letter of Bishop Budka. Judging from these two articles, there is quite a diversity of opinion whether or not Canadian Ruthenians will go to Austria and fight against Great Britain. Most people think that because Bishop Budka appeals to his people they will respond to his call and do as he bids them. It will not be so in this case.

The Ukrainians who go back to Austria to war will number very few, and they are only those who have very close relatives, there such as parents or wife and children, and probably those who have only been in this country a very short time. Those, however, who have lived in Canada for any length of time are not paying much attention to Bishop Budka's patriotic appeals. They have not forgotten the yoke they left behind them, the oppression, tyranny and injustice imposed upon them by all officers of the Austrian government from the lowest to the highest rank, including, of course, ecclesiastics.

I assure you, sir, that if the Ruthenians are called to arms on Canada or any part of Great Britain they will fight for the Union Jack to the last drop of blood in their veins. If the Union Jack is good enough for other nationalities, it is certainly good enough for Ruthenians.

Also, permit me to say a few words regarding an assertion made in the aforementioned editorial, that Ruthenians of Canada intend to establish a "Canadian Ukraine," and that they resist compulsory education. This is absolutely incorrect with a large majority of our people in Canada. There may be a few that have visions, whose names are well known to you and to your readers, but such men are not idealized by the Ruthenians of modern type either in the motherland or in Canada.

I and most Canadian Ruthenians heartily agree with you that all nationalities making their home in Canada and sharing its prosperity should defend the honor and title of this treasure-robbled country and its motherland.

CANADIAN UKRAINIAN.

Winnipeg, August 8.

(Ed. Note.—This letter, published just as received, without editorial revisions, shows how Ruthenians, who take advantage of our educational facilities, can secure a mastery of the English language.—Ed. F.P.)