

The German People

(Montreal Mail)

With the war fever running high throughout the country, it is timely to call attention to the fact that Germans resident in Canada are entitled to courtesy and respect. Any manifestation of animosity towards them by impassioned individuals or crowds should be put down with emphasis.

Many German citizens in this country have left Germany to escape the harsh customs of overbearing bureaucratic rule and the military domination to which the regime of Kaiser William II has given rise. Undoubtedly, many of them will join the forces raised in Canada to fight for the British Empire in this war. Let no abhorrence for the ruthless man who has involved Europe in strife blind the eyes of Canadians to the unquestioned merit and worth of the thousands of their German born countrymen, whose sober, industrious lives have been spent to build up this nation in the past and will be of so much value to Canada in the future. A just admiration for the Germans in Canada is compatible with a just abhorrence of the German Emperor in Europe. Nor must we withhold a certain sympathy for the great masses of the German people at home. From their mastery of the arts of peace, their systems of civic administration, education, and industrial organization, we could learn much to our advantage. Fate has decided that a ruthless War Lord should force the issue in the arts of War.