

versity but to the Government. In the event of an exchange being effected for professors in American universities competent for the positions but not politically objectionable in Canada, the merits of that question may not need to be discussed until the air has been cleared and the nerve-strain relieved. Much will be said on both sides. Out of it all, let us hope, the University will emerge undamaged and uncompromised.

THE UNIVERSITY AND THE PEOPLE.

The Provincial University is in some respects the greatest of the responsibilities of the Provincial Government. In Ontario the University of Toronto is the chief institution of public education belonging to the people of Ontario. For this reason the Ontario Government is responsible to the people for the administration of the University. Prior to the new University Act of 1906 appointments to the University staff were made directly by the Government. Under the Premiership of Sir James Whitney the University was reorganized, and its administration was put into the hands of a Board of Governors appointed directly by the Government and responsible directly to the Government. The Governors, in all parts of their duty under the Act, are the executive of the Government; they are responsible to the Government; for their conduct of the affairs of the University the Government is responsible to the people of the Province. In the interests alike of the University and of the Province there must be no weakening and no shifting of that Governmental responsibility.

Quite as important, as explicit, and as immovable under the University Act is the responsibility of the President of the University. All appointments to the University staff, from the Principal of University College down to the sessional laboratory attendants and class assistants, must be made by the Board of Governors, but only—and on this the law is very emphatic,—only on the nomination of the President. Similarly no dismissal from the staff can be made by the Governors except on the President's recommendation. That change in the law rid the University of the curse of political patronage and lobbying and intrigue. It conferred on the President adequate control of his staff. It located on him responsibility for efficiency in every department. Under no other system can educational efficiency be secured in a great University: under no other system could ability and leadership be held in the President's office. In the interests of the University, of the Province, and of the Government, there must be no shifting and no weakening of that Presidential responsibility.

Under present strained conditions of life and opinion in Canada and over all the world it is inevitable that university circles should be disturbed. It is right that the fountains of knowledge should be safely protected. As regards the University of Toronto, so far as The Globe is aware, there are no two opinions, either in the Provincial Government, in the University Board of Governors, in the Senate, or among the faculty and students—no two opinions on this fundamental question: that in the University no place can be allowed for the teaching of Pan-Germanism, or for the advocacy of anti-British ideals, or for the exerting of any influence, either direct or indirect, calculated to weaken the devotion of Canadian students to the cause for which this nation and the Empire have gone into the deadly conflict of war.

On that point there must be no divided counsels. It is one of the tragedies of this world-war that international suspicions are rife, that the decencies of life have been broken down, and that the guarantees of civilization, of education, and of religion have been subjected to distrustful scrutiny. If gentlemen of German birth and citizenship are humiliated by unjust suspicions it is due in part to their being involved in the condemnation of Germany's treason to treaties, to the disgraceful German espionage system, and to the denial of all moral obligations by the spokesmen of Germany's case in the United States. This is but one of the injustices inseparable from war and its violations of law.

Dozens of German citizens in the civil service, both Federal and Provincial, are in a similar case. Many of them will take out their naturalization papers in accordance with the requirements of the new legislation, but time must be allowed. Teachers have come to America from Germany in order to escape military autocracy and the Prussian oligarchy, and the price they have paid is disinheritance. Such cases were in Premier Borden's mind when he pleaded for just treatment and consideration in his address in Toronto on Saturday last.

The controversy over the case of Prof. Mueller of the department of German, and Prof. Benzinger, head of the department of Oriental languages, involves not only these gentlemen but also the University and the Government. Both were German citizens. Both have lived outside of Germany, one for twenty-one years, the other for thirteen years. Both are ready and willing to become Canadian citizens under the new naturalization law which comes into force in January next. Neither is a German **reservist**. Against neither has any charge been made or any evidence of disloyal or unworthy conduct offered.

The question: Should these professors be dismissed from the Provincial University without cause other than the fact of their blood and ancestry? is a question of interest not only to the Uni-