

LABOR IN CANADA IS DOING ITS BIT

Mr. W. H. Price Points to Different Attitude of Labor in Britain

WALKERTON ENTHUSIASTIC

Strong Appeal to Women to do Their Share in Cause of Right

From a Staff Reporter.

Walkerton, Jan. 3.—The centre of Bruce County gave itself over to patriotic fervor last night when a civic welcome was extended to a number of soldiers from the district who had returned from the front. The occasion was made opportune, as well, for a stirring patriotic appeal from Mr. W. H. Price, K.C., M.P.P., of Toronto, in aid of recruiting. Other appeals were made on behalf of the Red Cross and Patriotic Fund work. Mayor F. W. Lippert was in the chair.

Mr. Price drew loud applause at his strong disapproval of the attitude assumed by the labor unions of England. Himself representing a riding with a large laboring population, Mr. Price was able to express his thanks for the co-operation that labor in Canada had given the Government.

"We have taken up the slogan that Canada must assist to the uttermost; that Great Britain must win. Whether in the factory or in the army, or on the way to the munition factories in the Old Country, labor has sunk its differences and bent every energy in one direction. No strikes—no rules insisted on—just a steady resolve to turn out supplies and munitions or fight in the armies of the Empire." (Applause.)

What Might Have Been.

"What a contrast to England, where labor unions seem to think that this is the time to argue while their brothers fight! What would they be doing now if men of Britain had not stood in the breach at the outbreak of the war? They would probably be trying to tell their German taskmasters in imperfect German what a beautiful country England was before the war and what wonderful privileges they formerly had through the trade unions and what great liberties existed under the Union Jack.

"It surely is high time that someone should protest against the futility of labor in England, in a life and death struggle, insisting on working restricted hours and in barring unskilled labor from any work that can be done even without apprenticeship.

"To keep up the comedy, why not let the soldier insist on eight or ten hours a day and refuse to fight beside the man who had failed to serve several years in the army. One is about as logical as the other and about as loyal." (Applause.)

Not the Nation to Lose.

At the opening of his speech Mr. Price referred to the memorial service held in St. Paul's Cathedral London, on the anniversary of the war. It was wonderful, he said, to witness that great multitude assembling in the place where the dust of Wellington and Nelson — Britain's great leaders on land and sea—was laid. Care had been taken to provide room for wounded soldiers. "When a nation is prepared, from its King down to its humblest citizen, to crowd one of its great cathedrals with the best there is in the land and surround that cathedral with hundreds of thousands anxious to get in, anxious to offer their humble prayer, that nation will not go down in the fight for right and for justice."

Mr. Price concluded his address with an appeal to the women of Bruce County to use their great influence to bring the struggle to a speedy termination. The call of duty was abroad in the land. The women could point out the way. "To-day, women, the country wants men to fight. It is asking your son or father, your brother or sweet heart to fight. It asks you to use your acknowledged power for right."