

VIEWS OF A CITIZEN WHO FOUGHT AT FRONT

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir:—Is this not rather a critical time for the people of Canada? I notice that the coal strike in the west is by no means nearer settlement, and what are the people, especially in the west, going to do with a hard winter ahead and a coal shortage.

And we notice that 60 per cent. of the strikers are enemy aliens. There is a laborers' strike at the dry dock at Port Arthur, and 362 men are on strike, 176 of them being Americans, and striking for 50 cents a day increase although being offered their demands plus 10 per cent. to finish the job, which was to finish the steamer Roberts to enable her to take a cargo of grain for the old country. This, I imagine, is just as serious as the coal strike.

The Free Press states the waiters in a cafe have gone on strike because an Englishman was employed there. These said waiters, according to the article, being Austrians, and the head waiter and leader of them at one time being interned, which does not speak very well of his feelings and intentions towards the allied cause, and naturally voices the feelings of all enemy aliens towards the native born Canadian, British, French, Italian, etc., etc.

And yet the Free Press which published the news of the strike, prints an article with the heading, "A Political Manoeuvre," which goes on in this manner: "The demand that naturalized citizens of Austrian or German nationality should be prevented from voting in the provincial elections now pending in Alberta and Saskatchewan has hitherto been made by parties who might reasonably be considered as not having given careful consideration to the question."

What is the meaning of this? Is the Free Press going to put professional party politics before love of country, and justice to the men who have sacrificed themselves, and those who are fighting for their country?

Is the Free Press going to champion the cause of the enemy aliens, even though naturalized (because blood is thicker than water) against those that have died and those that are fighting for a principle as well as the returned soldier, and every right-minded man. If so, it is about time the people of this country woke up to the fact that something is wrong in the state of Denmark.

It is no use trying to lull ourselves into a false sense of security with all these people in our midst.

The percentages of fires occurring all over the country of grain elevators, warehouses, store houses, farm buildings, docks, etc., etc., are not all accidental; which reminds one of British birth of the German bands which periodically visited our dis-

tricts as well as all parts of Great Britain playing vile music, collecting barely enough money to keep themselves, ever travelling by train from one town to another, always walking, incidentally pacing distances from point to point, inspecting bridges on their way, tunnels, railways, photographing them from different points, supposedly unseen. Among these bands were, of course, military engineers of no mean ability, and no doubt it was part of a deep-laid scheme which, as one grew older they were better able to judge.

Now, is the Free Press, or any other paper going to continue to champion the cause of alien enemies, although naturalized, against that men who are fighting for the country? Any newspaper that does such a thing is simply placing professional party politics before country, and we have had enough of that. As though the average man can not have given careful consideration to the question of who we are at war with today and for what reason.

Does not the average man know that blood is thicker than water and that naturalization does not change the blood?

Are the people of Canada going to stand for the professional politician who has made himself rich at the expense of the country by the aid of the naturalized alien enemy, who band together in societies and give their vote in a body to the party who will pander to them?

Only look at the findings of Judge Galt in regard to some of the graft in Manitoba, look at the Saskatchewan road schandals of last year; look at the railroad graft—all for professional politicians and party.

No wonder that the returned soldier comes home with a set jaw, because a fight is ahead of him just as bad as he went through in France or Belgium.

No wonder that the Ministerial society are looking for ways and means to have a cleaner and purer Canada, and for exterminating the political blood-sucker, which is the duty of all right-thinking men. And may the revolution of feeling come soon, so that we may have a better, greater and cleaner Canada, a country pointed to with pride instead of scorn.

A RETURNED MAN.