

## Foreigners Among Us

It cannot be denied, however, that soldiers who have returned from the war and soldiers who have been drafted to serve in the war have some justification for protest against the way in which foreigners in this country are exempted from war service, from tax-paying, from patriotic giving, while they enjoy extra high wages on account of the war.

These soldiers say, and a great many others agree with them, that foreigners who are enemy aliens ought to be **interned**, and if released under license to work at current war wages ought to be taxed for the good of the country which is, at such a time as this, affording them security, shelter, and comfort.

These soldiers say also, and a great many others entirely agree with them, that foreigners who are of allied countries ought to be as much in this war as we are ourselves, that being here they ought to be as much subject to draft as our own men of military age, or as much subject to draft as they would be if they were in their own country.

There ought to be a more complete co-operation between the allied nations. We are now in the fifth year of the war, and it is but of late that the allies in the field have come under one command. The results of this centralized command are highly satisfactory. On the sea, too, there is the most complete co-operation, both as to fighting ships and merchant marine. All shipping on salt water works as if from one cen-

tral command. But in a very important respect the co-operation is left incomplete.

It is understood that by this time next month arrangements will have been perfected by which in each of the allied countries citizens of all other allied countries will be made as liable to military service as if they were at home or as if they were natives of the country they happen to be in. In Canada, therefore, it is expected that foreigners from allied countries will be liable to military service either with our forces or with the forces of their own country, and that Canadians in the United States will be in the same position. Instead of Canada having to maintain expensive missions in the United States to gather recruits our citizens over there will come under American regulations.

This plan if put into effect even at this late date ought to do much to improve a situation that causes much discontent. But it leaves the question of enemy aliens still to be dealt with, and if the war is to be prolonged a way of handling that problem will have to be found. We are strongly opposed to any attitude of injustice towards foreigners of any class. But we are equally opposed to any policy of injustice towards natives of this country.