A UKRAINIAN APPEAL.

The Ukrainian Presbyterian community of Toronto has appealed to the Great War Veterans' Association to join in persuading the Government to allow the Ukrainians to "depart in peace" to their native land. A meeting of a thousand Ukrainians at Hamilton the other night passed a similar resolution. Why should the authorities try to keep aliens in the country who want to leave? In the case of the Ukrainians the difficulty is the lack of transportation facilities. Odessa, the Ukrainian port, is far distant, and every steamship plying between America and Europe will be urgently needed in the Atlantic service for many months to come, but the Government should try to help the Ukrainians to return home as one means of reducing unemployment.

There are many Ukrainians in Canada who are good citizens and loyal to the country. Because of the barrier of language it is not always possible to distinguish between this class and the Bolshevist party which has been carrying on a seditious agitation during the war. Pamphlets in the Ukrainian language have been circulated all over Canada preaching revolutionary violence. In the West scheming leaders have tried to keep these people from the assimilating influences of the Canadian spirit, and have openly worked to build up a Ukrainian nationality. These provocations should not deter Canadians from trying to discriminate between the desirable and undesirable elements and from dealing out justice and British fair play. The majority of Ukrainians, who are in the West, are farmers, and are not aggravating the labor problem. The Ukrainian laborers in the cities and towns who have been loyal, and have families to support, should receive every consideration, subject to the preferred claims of returned soldiers on employers of labor. If unmarried Ukrainians have no work they will be in the same plight as an army of Canadians to-day. But the best way out would be the emigration of the thousands of Ukrainians who say they are eager to go home. The Government should at least aid them in this form if it can.