

FIRE ALL ALIENS, TAKE ON VETERANS

A Mass Meeting at Guelph Puts the Matter Up to Employers.

HOW TO TREAT THE ALIEN.

"At the earliest possible date all enemy aliens should be deported from this country."—Prov. Secretary W. E. Turley, of G.W.V.A., at Guelph.

"We want the alien 'fired' from every position in Canada so long as there are returned men in Canada who are unable to obtain work."—(Capt.) Rev. Archdeacon Mackintosh, president Guelph G.W.V.A.

Special to The Star by a Staff Reporter.

Guelph, Feb. 10.—The citizens of Guelph are opposed to unfriendly aliens remaining any longer in positions which can be filled by the men returning from overseas.

At a meeting which taxed to the utmost the capacity of Griffin's Opera House last night the following resolution was passed by a standing vote, the audience of 1,400 people rising as one man when Mayor J. E. Carter submitted it to them:

"Whereas during the four years of the Great War aliens have been coming to this city in large numbers, enjoying full freedom and drawing large wages;

"And, further, whereas the Canadian Expeditionary Force is at present under demobilization and large numbers of our comrades are to return from overseas, it is not fair that these aliens should be working on good jobs and our comrades have to take anything that is open, in many cases at lower wages than before enlistment.

"Therefore, be it resolved that this meeting of veterans and citizens of Guelph request the manufacturers and all employers of labor in the city of Guelph to discharge all unfriendly aliens from their employ, and take on returned soldiers, as it cannot be expected that these returning men will work in harmony side by side with these aliens. We believe that too much attention cannot be paid to this question, if riots are to be prevented.

"And it is also moved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Federal, Provincial and municipal authorities throughout the Dominion for immediate action."

Hundreds Turned Away.

By seven o'clock a large crowd had wedged itself in front of the Opera House, and at seven-thirty, the whole building, with its two galleries, was quickly filled. By eight o'clock hundreds had been turned away.

Provincial Secretary W. E. Turley and (Capt.) Rev. Archdeacon A. G. Mackintosh, president of the Guelph branch G.W.V.A., in strong and unmistakable language, voiced the opinions of the veterans, and set the keynote for the meeting.

Captain Mackintosh, in a stirring speech, called for united action on the part of the people of Guelph to see that so far as the city was concerned the alien question was settled once and for all by removing all unfriendly aliens who were holding down positions formerly occupied by returned men.

"The men who heard 'the call' were promised that their women and children would be provided for," said the fighting chaplain, "and they were further promised that they would be taken care of when they returned. (Voice, "They sure were.") Yet one of the obstacles to this course of action is the alien. (Voice, "Throw them out.")

Aliens Are Only Transients.

"These people have earned big wages, receiving in many cases in four years what they would not have received in six before the war. They are not British subjects, and they do not intend to become British subjects. They are only transients in our midst. Yet for four years they have had the opportunity of making big money while great war veterans were wallowing in Flemish mud at \$1.10 a day." (Voice, "Good old dollar-ten.")

"Now the veteran is returning to Canada, and is finding that many of these aliens are enjoying good wages while they cannot obtain employment. They find these men of alien birth well-clothed and well-fed in the street while they go without." (Cries of "Shame.")

"The time has come to end all this," continued Captain Mackintosh. "We want the alien fired from every position in Canada so long as there are returned men in Canada who are unable to obtain work. (Loud applause.)

Act by Constitutional Means.

"To bring this about," said Capt. Mackintosh, "we intend to get the Government to act through constitutional means. But we also want the manufacturers of Guelph and the Dominion to do their part. I want it to go abroad throughout Canada that the people of Guelph stand shoulder to shoulder with the returned man in his request for first consideration ahead of the aliens."

In closing the local president of the G.W.V.A. made an eloquent appeal for final and definite action on the part of the Government. "The returned men," said he, "believe the alien question can be settled. We believe that it ought to be settled and we intend to get it settled by constitutional means. I appeal as the soldiers were appealed to in the country's hour of need, for you to stand by them as their brown bodies have stood by you." (Loud applause.)

Alien Profiteers Drive Autos.

Provincial Secretary Turley pointed out that many great war veterans were already walking the streets of the manufacturing towns and cities throughout the Dominion.

"While these men have been overseas, they have heard much of war profit and high wages. They have not profited. Their pay in 1919 is exactly what it was in 1914, they know that profiteering in Canada during the war has not been confined to the pork packers.

"They know that men who cannot speak the English language—men who are absolutely opposed to British ideals, morally, socially and politically—men of alien races, who drove picks and shovels before the war are driving automobiles now. Naturally they think there's something very unjust in a country where these things are commonplace.

"The veterans have earned the right to be given first consideration by the State," continued Mr. Turley. "They have earned the right to be

"Restore" v.

"Repatriate"

Special to The Star by a Staff Reporter.

Guelph, Feb. 10.—Speaking at the Military Hospital here yesterday, Provincial Secretary Wm. Turley, of the G.W.V.A., declared that "restoration" was a much more satisfactory word than "repatriation."

"Repatriation," he said, "simply means returning a man to his native land. Restoration, on the other hand, means placing the soldier back in as good, if not a better, position in civilian life than the one he left."

given the first chance for employment with the private employer of labor even though that employer of labor fires an alien to make way for them." (Applause.)

Canada White Man's Country.

"This is a national question, and because it is of national importance the Great War Veterans are vitally interested. They believe that Canada should be a white man's country from now on 'Hear, hear' and cheers.) They know that when the acid-test came, those of British traditions felt impelled to go to the front and that there was no such mustering of Russians, Italians, or Serbians, even though their mother countries were endangered.

"On the contrary, most of them remained behind in Canada with the aliens of enemy nationality and piled up wealth for themselves."

Secretary Turley quoted some interesting figures to show what the coming of the foreigner has meant for Canada. Within the ten years before the war immigration had jumped from 49,000 a year to 402,000. As a result Canada's five million native-born were called on to absorb yearly one-third as many immigrants as were the eighty-million native-born of the United States.

"From these two facts," said Mr. Turley, "the inference is quite plain that we were so busy handling our rush of prosperity that we have not paused to think of our future problems—that in 20 years more at this ratio the newcomers would outnumber the British-born population."

Secretary Turley directed the attention of the meeting to the fact that some fifty-odd branches of the Great War Veterans' Association had passed resolutions calling upon the Government to take some definite action towards deporting the enemy alien and dealing in a decisive manner with those who were already here.

Calls Election Act Safeguard.

"These people while among us are not of us," said the speaker, "and I view with alarm the attempt which is now being made in Alberta and Saskatchewan to repeal the War Times Election Act. It is one of our safeguards from the conditions which might overwhelm us at the present stage of our development."

In closing Secretary Turley condemned the old community system by which aliens had settled throughout the Dominion. "If we wipe out the community system, I think we shall find a solution for this problem which has so long annoyed the veterans."

In opening the meeting Mayor J. E. Carter pointed out the 1,400 people who had gathered inside the hall, together with the many who had been unable to gain admittance, was some indication of how Guelph viewed the alien problem.

Ald. T. J. Hannigan, hon. vice-president of the G.W.V.A., in closing the meeting, was of the opinion that the war would never be over until every returned man was back in a job as good or better than the one he left.