

ALIEN MENACE IN ALBERTA PROMPTS VETERANS TO ACTION

Demand Disenfranchisement —Vets Are Anxious and Insistent

Edmonton, March 12. — Concerted action by the war veterans and all patriotic societies of Alberta is being directed toward securing the disenfranchisement of the former alien enemies during the period of reconstruction. They propose to point the way for a Federal franchise act of the same character. There are now some 36,000 returned men in Alberta, and they constitute a powerful force for placing the affairs of the country in the hands of those who believe thoroughly in the preservation of British ideals until the back-wash of war's unrest has been completely allayed.

On the eve of the Legislative session of the official organ of the soldiers, the Alberta Veteran, published prominently this editorial comment on the alien menace in Alberta and the necessity for action:

The Enemy Alien.

"In another month the Legislative Assembly of Alberta will be again in session. Nearly two years ago this newspaper clamored for some action towards disfranchising the enemy alien and all such undesirables. The reply then was 'wait for a little, we are too busy.' Last year we again repeatedly demanded that the undesirables of enemy-alien origin be cut off from the vote but again the issue was side-stepped. On both sides of the House there appears to exist an apathy which is not healthy. Speaking bluntly, it appears that the value of the possible and probable voting support is deemed more desirable than the justice of our demand.

Action Demanded.

The G.W.V.A. has taken up this question but never has received satisfactory solution or action. Our contention has always been that with the enemy alien and his kind out of the voting we would have cleaner, better and brighter politics in Alberta. Cleaner and better because of the absence of their influence, brighter because the constituencies, would then most assuredly return different types of representatives to the House at the next election. Action should be taken before the House settles down for another term of procrastination."