

THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

Disarm the Foreigners.

Guelph Mercury:—The hot blood of the south has resulted in countless tragedies since Italians started to find employment in Canadian cities, and there is only one way to put a stop to the indiscriminate use of deadly weapons among these alien immigrants. Until such time as the newcomer can be taught respect for the law, the only way to curb their quarrelsome instinct is to see that they are not allowed to have weapons of any kind. Every foreigner coming into Canada should be searched and every weapon of any kind taken away. Further provision should be made for the prohibition of the sale of weapons in this country to them under any circumstances. Unarmed they could do no mischief.

Someone Should Tell Them.

London Advertiser:—Too many members of Parliament refuse to see the distinction between a debate and a gabfest.

The Tea-drinkers.

Ottawa Free Press:—A Toronto paper has a story of a column and a half about men of that city drinking tea. It appears that these busy chaps leave their strenuous work some time in the afternoon and go out for a cup of tea. It's quite English, don't you know. And Toronto dearly loves to be English. Even at that there are a lot of men in that city who ought to drink tea.

English Public Spirit.

Stratford Beacon:—Rufus Isaacs, K.C., M.P., the new Solicitor-General of Great Britain, is the acknowledged leader of the London Bar. He is reported to have a practice worth \$400,000 per annum. In accepting the Solicitor-Generalship he sacrifices a large part of this enormous income, but such is the public spirit that prevails in the motherland.

Politicians and the Electors.

Woodstock Sentinel-Review:—With the spread of political ideas among the people the development of independence is bound to come. . . . There is a growing disposition on the part of the people to investigate the meaning and the operation of the party system. What do the parties stand for? How do they stand for it? Does fidelity to party principles imply fidelity to any group of party politicians using the party label? And one thing about this spirit of independent inquiry is that once it has got fairly started it is not easy to check it. Party politicians who sincerely believe in the usefulness of the party system should make note of this. The greatest danger to the party system comes, perhaps, from the failure of the party leaders to keep in touch with living party principles, as they become modified to meet the changing conditions. There is always a tendency to make loud profession of party principles at election times and to forget all about them afterwards. Such conduct naturally gives rise to suspicion and distrust on the part of the people. The people like fidelity and consistency, but they like the leaders to be faithful and consistent too.