

TIMELY ADVICE

Toronto, April 15.—Under the caption of "British and French together" the Globe contrasts the racial discord in Canada over the bilingual question with the whole-souled union and common sacrifice of Frenchmen and Englishmen alike of battlefields.

Continuing the Globe says: "The men who interfere from outside the government and legislature of Ontario may be ignorant or may be sinister, but, whether nationalist or Orangist, whether French-blooded or British-blooded, they are the enemies of both sides and the deadliest enemies of both the nation and the Empire.

"Bourassa and Lavergne and their representatives in parliament at Ottawa, and fanatics and exploiters of the same ilk but of different speech in Toronto—they are, all of them together, traitors alike to true Nationalism and to true Imperialism."

21st BATTALION MENTIONED.

Sir Max Aitken, Canadian official eye-witness at the front, records exceptionally good work performed by members of the 21st Ottawa-Kingston Battalion, especially, and the 18th Battalion during the week of March 28th to April 4th. Lieutenant William Fisher Brownlee, son of Mr Wm. Brownlee, of McDonald's Corners, took part in an important action.

Major Tom Caldwell and many other local men are in the 21st Battalion, which has been doing some good work at different times. Working parties of the Canadian Second Division of which the 21st is a part, are credited with doing fine work in connecting up their left with the right in the St. Eloi craters and in the original German front line trench, in face of desperate German efforts to seize further mine craters after getting control of one of them. On April 1st the British were severely shelled and assistance being requested from the Canadians a squad of bombers from the 21st Battalion and the 18th were sent out under Lieut. W. F. Brownlee, of McDonald's Corners, formerly of the 42nd Regiment, Perth, and Lieut. G. H. Speer. In a notable exploit they bombarded the enemy out of his trenches in front of the crater, established the new position and held it until daylight, when fresh British troops relieved them. The Canadians threw the German bombers and Ptes. D. Brooklin, formerly of the 43rd Regt., Ottawa; R. C. Smith, Listowel, Ont.; J. Nicholson, Searlight, Ont.; and R. L. Strong, are especially mentioned for gallantry.

The positions captured by our bombers proved valuable at a base of operations against the Germans holding the crater. Starting from this line on the following night the British troops assaulted and captured the crater. Four officers and eighty other ranks were taken prisoners and handed over to our troops for safe keeping. The new British lines were then joined up and consolidated.

The 21st figured in a number of other outstanding exploits, for which the following are particularly commended: Capt. M. L. Shepherd, Alexandria, Ont.; Lt. Ernest C. Southey, Bowmansville, Ont.; Pte. J. H. Northey, Fenelon Falls, Ont.; and Pte. Hind.

TO CANADIANS OF GERMAN DESCENT.

The following letter, written by F. C. Liersch, of Atwood, Ont., recently appeared in the Toronto Globe:

As a German, may I speak through the medium of the press to the German people of our Dominion?

I have no doubt that there may have been times when German-Canadians think that their feelings have been hurt, perhaps by some remarks which have been made either through the press or it may be, by some one who has expressed feelings of contempt for the Germans. But when we stop to think of the awful deeds of cruelty which the German soldiers have committed against the women and children and old men of Belgium, and of their unrighteous methods of fighting with liquid fire and gas, and also the murder of innocent people with Zeppelins and submarines, as they did with the Lusitania, it must be admitted they have violated international law and decency, and we need not wonder when we hear people express contempt for them.

Is it not human nature to strongly speak out against such diabolical crimes? And I think that we as a German people, ought to forbear with those who may express their feelings against the German nation, and yet have no unkind feeling to the German people in this country. We, as German people, have always been respected until this war commenced. Now there has been a bitter feeling created in the hearts of some against the German people, which I expect will take a long time to die out, all through the crimes which the German army has committed by order of the Kaiser. But let us, as a German people, so conduct ourselves that we may still, in spite of what Germany may do, retain the respect and good will of those with whom we may come in contact. Now, I would like to say a few words to those German people born in this country whose hearts are with Germany in this present war. If there should be any who may happen to read this, it is hard to understand why or how people of German descent, living in Canada, or anywhere else under the British flag and protection, can be in favor, or have any sympathy with, Germany in this war, and I fancy, in most cases it is due to ignorance of the causes that brought on this war. The murder of Archduke Ferdinand, of Austria, at Sarajevo by the Serbians could easily have been settled had not Germany saw in this her chance for the war for which she had been preparing for the last forty years. The Kaiser had all his plans laid, and he thought the time was opportune to strike quickly and hard.

Germany has laid the blame for this war on Great Britain. But did not Germany sign a treaty to protect Belgium? Was she not the first party to break that treaty? And was not Britain in honor bound to protect Belgium when she had signed a treaty that she would? Now, the fact that Britain and the rest of the allies were unprepared for war ought to be conclusive evidence that they did not seek war with Germany. Let me ask my German friends: Why was Germany making such great preparations for war when no nation was seeking a quarrel? We Germans have enjoyed the blessings of British rule. Contrast this with what it would be living under the Kaiser's rule! Which would the German reader prefer? If willing to work, one can always get work and make a good living. We are not overburdened with taxation. Now, is it honorable on our part to defend Germany in her actions in this war, in her crimes against women and children, and in her unholly methods of warfare, and in her unjust cause which has brought on this war? We have an Empire to be proud of. It is the best under the sun, and we ought to thank God that we belong

to the British Empire, which has always stood for right and true liberty to all, and will not stand to see a weaker nation crushed by a stronger one. Britain is not fighting against the Germans as a German people, but to break down forever that ungodly spirit of militarism which has honeycombed the German people. When this war is over even the people of Germany will thank God for the day when the allies won the victory and gave them their true liberty, which they cannot have so long as they are ruled by the Kaiser. Let my German friends take a calm view of the situation in their quiet moments, and make a thorough study of the question; and let their better self speak. I am sure they will come to the conclusion that Germany is in the wrong.

Let me here say that all Germans born under the British flag are British subjects, and as such they are in honor bound, in view of what it means and has meant to us, to uphold always, and especially at this time, the honor of the British flag.

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