

purpose of the South African war was to champion the right of British residents in the Transvaal to franchise privileges which Kruger, afraid of the British vote, was so reluctant to concede. To assert that right of citizenship in the Boer Republic Britain and the Dominions poured out their blood and their wealth in one of the most stubborn and costly wars of modern times. To-day there are men in **Canada** who seek to emulate the statecraft of Oom Paul Kruger, and to break faith with thousands of naturalized citizens in this country whose loyalty is not imugned, and who have been taught to regard **Canada** as a land where British fair play prevails. In Alberta the triumph of the Liberals at the polls is, among other things, a vindication of the rights of the naturalized immigrants in that Province, which were threatened by an agitation which Premier Sifton treated with well-merited contempt.

Another movement, not less pernicious and dangerous than that which is directed against the stranger within the gates, is the campaign against Quebec, which is rapidly driving this country into a state bordering on civil strife. The Montreal Gazette, a staid Conservative journal, deserves credit for its moral courage in defending Quebec against the misrepresentations of those who are trying to foment trouble between English and French speaking Canadians. The Gazette of Saturday, commenting on Rev. L. E. Skey's motion in the Anglican Synod, that Provincial representation in Parliament should be based on military service, protests that "public opinion generally in **Canada** is not desirous of making militarism supreme in the civil government of this country," and that "**Canada** does not want to out-Prussian the Prussians in the matter of government."

The Montreal Star, which represents the territorial barons of Canada, demands a return to open voting at the polls so that it may be publicly known how every man votes. Is this democratic **Canada** or a Prussian province? The Montreal Gazette reflects the sober, sane thought of the country at this crisis when it asks:

"Are the fierce hatreds bred of the war, and which are universal, to prevail over right and commonsense in a land like **Canada**, which is only beginning to build itself up on a scale commensurate with its territorial size and natural wealth? Union, not disunion, is needed in the Dominion to-day. The war cannot last forever, and **Canada** will be laboring under a terrible handicap if her people are torn with religious and racial jealousies and suspicions when peace is restored."

The war cannot last forever, but **Canada** must go on or go down. Unscrupulous fomentors of racial and sectarian strife may, if not curbed in time, rob our country of the chance of reaching the goal to which other Allied peoples are directing their steps in this war—the goal of national peace and unity, without which victory over Germany will prove to be Dead Sea fruit.

THE NATION'S GOAL.

Fifty years ago the leaders of the people saw **Canada** divided by Provincial and racial dissensions, and drafted a constitution that confederated these jarring elements on lines that for years gave rare promise to permanent national unity. The issue that confronts **Canada** to-day is whether this Confederation shall endure.

Centrifugal forces have been strengthened, and sinister influences let loose, that threaten disaster unless the spirit of Confederation is invoked by those on whose shoulders rests the responsibility for guiding the country into the path of unity. Of what avail the sacrifices of Canada's soldiers at the front if at home are sown the seeds of racial hatred and national discord? A terrible responsibility rests upon those into whose hands are committed momentous decisions that for years to come must affect the internal peace and harmony of the Dominion, on which her whole future depends. An agitation has been set on foot for the disfranchisement of **foreigners** who were invited to take up their residence in this country and who came relying upon the honor and good faith of Canadians. A bill has been introduced in the House at Ottawa to deprive naturalized citizens of their rights and to treat them as potential enemies of **Canada**. Could blind fanaticism go further in the Prussianization of this country? Seventeen years ago Canadian troops went overseas to South Africa to vindicate the rights of British citizens in the Transvaal. The ostensible