

men are more outspokenly anti-British since December 17th than ever before. If that is the case there should be no difficulty in securing evidence that would warrant drastic action. It would be useful also to learn to what extent the leaven of pro-Germanism has taken hold of the young Canadians of German ancestry who before the outbreak of war were not of the "hyphenated" group. A small Commission appointed by the Dominion Government with full power to investigate the conditions existing in Kitchener by the calling of witnesses and the public hearing of complaints made by any citizen or group of citizens might do much to ease the strain. If there are enemy aliens in Kitchener who are causing disaffection by persistent glorifying of the Kaiser and slandering of the Allied powers they should be exposed and interned. That would be a far more honest and courageous way of dealing with Kitchener's troubles than the inauguration of a boycott, which would injure the innocent equally with the offenders.

#### KITCHENER'S OPEN SORE.

The result of the recent general election has been an increase of the tension between the people of Kitchener and the vicinity who are of German birth and their fellow-citizens of British ancestry. There is danger that the relations between the Germanic elements in the region of which Kitchener is the centre and their neighbors will become even more embittered in the future than they have been in the past. This danger is increased by the talk of "isolating" Kitchener—and penalizing the city's industries, irrespective entirely of the ownership of these industries—as a means of showing the country's resentment concerning the attitude of the majority of the citizens of Kitchener toward the war.

Such an indiscriminate boycott would constitute a very great wrong. The enthusiastic Canadians of Kitchener, who have no more love for the Kaiser than their fellow-countrymen all over the Dominion, would be seriously hurt by it. Apart from this the boycott is a clumsy weapon which a self-respecting people ought to use only in the last resort. Threats against Kitchener's industrial life are, to put it mildly, premature, and are likely to stiffen the backs of the people rather than make them more pliant.

There are more effective means than an indiscriminate boycott of getting at the real malcontents of Waterloo county. Many stories have come to The Globe of unlawful acts by notorious pro-Germans since war broke out. It is claimed that some of these