

PROSCRIBING THE ENEMY TONGUE.

The Federal Government has decreed that no meetings, except church meetings, shall be conducted in **Canada** in any enemy language, or in Russian, Finnish, or **Ukrainian**, and that no enemy-language newspaper shall be printed except by license of the Secretary of State. A number of societies, principally Russian and **Ukrainian** revolutionary groups, have been declared unlawful. It is made a criminal offence to belong to them or attend any of their meetings. Any association which advocates political or economic changes by means of force is also banned.

These are repressive war measures, justified by the fact that many foreign-language meetings and some foreign-language societies and newspapers have screened a good deal of seditious propaganda. The proscription touches only a fringe of a much larger problem, which can be dealt with in its entirety only after the war. It is one aspect of a question of deep national significance. What is to be Canada's policy toward settlers and immigrants of enemy birth, and toward foreign languages which have deliberately been employed, particularly in the West, to create and solidify racial enclaves that resist Canadianizing agencies and the diffusion of a national spirit? Some of these organizations are utterly inconsistent with patriotic Canadian citizenship. This menace exists now, and will grow. It will have to be faced soon and resolutely.
