

THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

But Does He?

Lethbridge Herald: The question of disfranchising the alien enemy citizens may be a debatable point. So far as The Herald can learn, the people of Lethbridge do not seem to care much, one way or another. But so far as enfranchisement of all the women of Canada is concerned, there is no room for argument, and Sir Robert Borden ought to know it by this time.

Fears the Women.

Saskatoon Phoenix: A further reason given by the Prime Minister for discrimination between the loyal women of Canada on a franchise for the war election is that the naturalization law would have to be amended, and that would involve negotiations with other parts of the Empire. This kind of tactics is frequently used by Sir Robert Borden. For the purpose of a war election it would have been quite feasible to give all women of Canada a vote, limiting the franchise in the same manner as it was limited for men. The Premier's statement of the case will not hold in the war-time elections bill. He is side-stepping the issue. An act could have been put through giving votes to all women on a fair basis. But Borden fears the women.

A Hint to Ottawa.

Vancouver World: In Canada the individual Provinces have, of course, done a great deal to diminish the menace which the liquor industry has proved to be to the economic life of the country. But the Dominion Government has done very little to cope with the situation brought about by practically unlimited production of whiskey. We might learn something from the admirable example of the United States in preparing so thoroughly for waging war.

The East Stands Rebuked.

Winnipeg Tribune: But, as we have said many times before, and repeat again, these allusions to Western foreign vote power come with bad grace from the East, which has been lagging behind the West in duty. It were better that comparison should not be made, but judged by the conduct of either the rural or the urban population, the West has little to be ashamed of. The East will find, even in the matter of fixing an arbitrary price on the chief product of the country, that no serious protest will be heard. Would the East submit as willingly to price-fixing in manufactures from the towns in which there is so much howling regarding the "foreign vote of the West."

Self-destroyed.

New York Times: The fact that we are at war with Germany must not benumb our sense of justice. It should be cheerfully recognized that in the last three years the Fatherland has rendered to civilization one of the greatest services in the history of mankind. Working practically alone, save for sporadic efforts on the part of her allies, and with a concentration at which future generations will marvel, Germany has made the world safe from Kultur.