

The War and the Summer Resorts

If, as stated in a letter from Mr. Phillips Thompson which we publish to-day, American citizens bearing German names are subjected to annoyance on entering Canada, and if this has injured the summer resort business of the Province, it is regrettable, but it seems to be unavoidable.

War is being made on this country as part of the British Empire, not only by Germany, but by persons of German origin in the neutral and friendly country next door. Attempts at violence made at Windsor and other points justify the taking of precautions.

While we heartily agree with Mr. Thompson that many a good Canadian of German name and origin is badly treated by his neighbors—that is to say, he is denied the good-will and fellowship of those about him—yet on the whole we believe the people of Ontario are doing better by those of enemy stock than is occurring anywhere else in the world on either side during this war. Canada may not be doing all and everything that is right in handling the racial difficulties incident to the war, but we are of the opinion that no country acts more fairly with enemy aliens, and more considerately with persons with German sympathies, than Canada does.

From the letters which he writes from time to time to the press, Mr. Phillips Thompson leaves on us the impression that he is a man who is always so anxious to be just that he frequently leans the other way. He is so upright that he bends backwards. He is so concerned about the rights of minorities that he has no eye at all for the rights of majorities. This country is at war, and it is necessary to take precautions against the crimes that individuals might commit. It would be difficult to imagine a people less watchful and concerned than the inhabitants of Toronto and Ontario at the present time. It is true that our summer resorts are not drawing their usual business, but the blame for this cannot, we think, be placed on the Canadian Government or its officials, but rather upon the rumor circulated throughout the United States that, owing to the war, tourists cannot enter Canada without passports. There is no ground for this rumor. The frontier is wide open as usual, except that those persons who may seem to be **enemy aliens** are subject to interrogation and the possibility of being turned back.