

Chirook, Alta.
Oct. 21, 1917.

Dear Mother:—

This little clipping may interest you. The application objecting to being called a British Subject might possibly be mine as both Lillian & I crossed out the words and wrote Canadian Citizen. I also wrote a footnote stating that I considered citizens the more correct word because "subject" only denoted one phase of the citizen's qualifications. Though "subject" to the existing government the citizen is also the "sovereign" power to whom the government is responsible. I hope this little notice in the paper will be seen by many and may inspire some to follow the good example of crossing out the bad sounding, if really bothersome, words British Subject and writing in Canadian Citizen. There is of course quite a little ~~of~~ objection by many to these terms though others cling closely to them, just as there are many (some of them rogues) who would do anything to gain an empty title from the King. One recently knighted person has lately been exposed in the press as having made several

million dollars by raising the price of bacon (he was supplying the allies) seven cents a pound at one leaf. This system of allowing Canadians to receive English titles of course works to the detriment of the country where interests of the people here clash with the ^{idiot} or selfish interests of certain parties in the old country quite often politicians will sell out their constituents in order to curry favour with the title giving powers in the old country. It's the same idea as the college trust which I have always thought a bad influence. It leaves the "bubs" in college and the common people in Canada without leaders, sending all their best men by unfair means.

We are having an extremely cold spell - I'm afraid the ground may be frozen up for good. If so this will be much the earliest fall we ever had & much the latest spring & by all odds the dullest summer. As we have had almost no rain since the first of April I look for abnormal precipitation during the winter months possibly making a record cold winter but it is impossible to prophesy in this country. The prospects for next year are not encouraging as there is very little stored moisture, but - this spring prospects are encouraging so no rule can be given.

Willie