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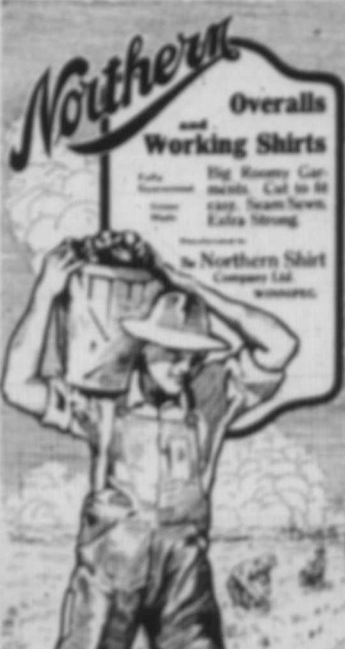
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private citizens on some necessary preparations which should be undertaken this summer in order to be ready to absorb the returned soldiers into civilian life after peace has been established on victory. Some things cannot be improvised quickly. It would be a shame and disaster to us at home if the men who have fought for preservation of our civilization should come back and find we had been too busy with selfish and personal affairs to welcome them into our productive occupations and our social life as contributing partners. I hope whenever the call comes from Provincial or Dominion government for men and women for national service in this field that the response will be as spontaneous and devoted as that of our men who are overseas. What a sad tragedy it would be, out of all the suffering and death and glory, if by our apathy or neglect "our boys" should have cause to question whether the civilization of Canada they fought to uphold was really for them quite worth while. May I repeat the anxious, earnest hope that we will all do our best to make it and to keep it worthy of all they have risked and done for it and for us.

The Jubilee of Confederation

Continued from Page 7

executive council were generally men of the governing class who were in antagonism to the members of the legislative assembly and to the interests of the electorate that the assembly represented.

The legislative assemblies from 1783 to 1840 had much less power than is exercised today by a municipal council in any Canadian city of fifteen or twenty thousand inhabitants. The system was a travesty of representative government. It was denounced as such by the people of Ontario and Quebec and the Maritime Provinces who were not of the family compacts or other little cliques into which the governing class grouped themselves.

From 1783 to 1840 formed a dreary and stagnating epoch in British colonial rule. There is no other period, either before or after the American Revolution, with which it can be compared. Its history can be read in the published debates of the House of Commons and House of Lords, in the Durham report and in Canadian political memoirs.

The Canadian Revolution

It is dismal reading, except for the proof that again and again comes to the surface that in all the provinces, and especially in Ontario and Quebec there were courageous and self-sacrificing men who refused to submit to rule by cliques of interested and often corrupt reactionaries—men who refused to be convinced that the people of Great Britain, who were then enjoying the effects of the Reform of the House of Commons of 1832 were willing that Canada should be ruled by autocrats. These men were ready to rebel if by rebellion a better system of government could be secured.

Rebellion came in 1837. In Quebec, where it cost three hundred lives, it was led by Papineau, too tribune of the French-Canadians. In Ontario it was led by William Lyon Mackenzie, an immigrant from Scotland. In each province the rebellion was quickly suppressed by the authorities and the military forces. But if a revolution is a rebellion that succeeds, the Canadian rebellions of 1837 were a revolution—a revolution that was as successful and as epoch-making as the Revolution of 1688 in England or the Revolution of the American colonies in 1776-83.

All that is of abiding value in British colonial development in the area from 1783 to 1914—all that people of the British Empire will congratulate themselves upon when they celebrate the Jubilee of the Dominion of Canada can be dated from the Canadian rebellion of 1837. It was followed by a complete change of policy on the part of parliament and the colonial office towards British overseas possessions with representative institutions and large populations of British origin.

The provinces of Quebec and Ontario were united. By an act passed at Westminster in 1840 a new constitution was framed for the United Provinces. Much larger powers were conferred on the

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