

men who exercise it. I am not a military man in the sense of provoking a quarrel; I am in sense of endeavouring to train every competent Canadian in military manoeuvres for the safety and defence of the nation. I believe the greatest asset, or one of the greatest assets we have, is the number of men originating from the best stocks in the world, the Saxon, Anglo-Saxon, and Celtic Saxon. These three elements are dominant in the commerce and industry of the world to-day. The three nations, Great Britain, Germany and France ruled the world to-day singly in some senses, collectively in the higher senses of the term. Such a breed of men trained in intellect need not take a second place to any other breed of man known. Let us see, then, that most is made of these powers. In Germany a few years ago I saw a march past of soldiers, and was greatly impressed with the physical fitness of these men. Let our men have that physical training which will give them a sense of confidence, and will make them strong in emergency, and will also make them strong to fulfil the ordinary duties of life. To me military culture for military purposes is but one small part of what it means. Obedience, close application, and respect of authority such as military training means, develops a man in the way he should go, and makes for good citizenship. Military training for the young men of Canada would add to their pleasure, increase their physical usefulness, and cultivate their qualities for industrial success. Imagine a military lawyer—a military training would be good for a lawyer. It would make him prompt and resolute and respectful to the court which I believe all lawyers should be.

It is a remarkable thing that when they were enlisting men for the Boer war in Manchester they rejected six out of every seven. They were not fit for service because of physical disability. I do not think such a thing would happen in Canada, but physical drill would reduce the possibility to a minimum. If our high schools, with their gymnasias and other physical advantages, would open up for the benefit of the young men of the cities and towns for physical culture during the evenings, it would be a great boon. There you have the machinery lying idle except for a few hours during the week. If the attention of the School Boards was drawn to this I have no doubt they would comply with a request to have their gymnasias placed at the disposal of these young men in the evenings. I approve very much of encouraging military cadet corps in the high schools. I think they will improve the

physique of our young men, and will give them an enthusiasm for power and for everything that is characteristic of higher citizenship. Anything you can do in that direction would be usefully done.

### Our Empire.

We have referred to the municipality, the Province, and the nation; they are all embraced in the Empire, not the British Empire, but our Empire, the Empire to which we owe allegiance, the Empire that has watched over us in our early years, and is watching over us still; the Empire out of which our population is being made, that is, building warships for the protection of our commerce and harbours, and is watching over us with the affection and fondness of a devoted mother; our Empire, which we want to make bigger by making Canada bigger, and by cultivating her timber, mineral, and agricultural resources. We will stand by her in every emergency. That is the lesson which Canada is teaching to every Canadian. That is the lesson we want to teach the nations of the world. The fact that we did go to the assistance of the Motherland in South Africa is a noble page in our history.

Then let us defend our commercial relations and see that no inroad is made upon the commercial prosperity of Canada. And let us remember the Empire which is our Empire. Her achievements are our achievements; and if in any way we can add to her glory by a higher honour, or bettering our ideals in business or in Church or in State, or by devotion to service in any capacity, it would be our greatest satisfaction to associate the name of Canada with the glorious achievements of the past century, and to show the Motherland that her whelps have all the qualities of the Old Lion, and in every respect worthy of the stock from which they sprung.

### VOTES OF THANKS.

On the motion of Col. Fotheringham, seconded by Mr. Castell Hopkins, Sir George Ross was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address. The other speakers were thanked on the motion of Col. Belcher, seconded by the Rev. T. Crawford Brown.

### RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.

The following resolution was then unanimously adopted: "This meeting hereby approves of the objects of the Canadian Defence League, and expresses the hope that its work may rapidly extend throughout Canada." The mover was Mr. E. H. Keating, and the seconder Dr. C. O. Hastings.