

become a state against the state. I followed very closely the remarks of the Prime Minister in this regard. He stated that the present methods would endure in war time only. So much the better. However, it will become impossible, after the war, to eradicate the habits contracted and the precedents established. Parliament adopts legislations, for which the departments are responsible, but their administration is left to hundreds of officials, and this means, first, the scattering of responsibility and, for the public at large, besides enduring the inconveniences of the moment, the duty of protecting themselves against the disastrous enthusiasm of law-making officials.

It is no doubt necessary to organize boards: among the essential ones we may mention the war service boards, the crown companies. However, I feel that certain of these boards have too many ramifications and the evil lies in the fact that each branch constitutes a miniature government. Without any responsibility whatever to the electors, these boards, committees and subcommittees substitute themselves to parliament, and even to the cabinet and the departments of the government. Setting too much faith in the power of legislation, they ceaselessly enact new regulations to remedy evils the real causes of which they have not investigated and, most of the time, they are astonished that their legislation remains ineffective or produces results opposite to what they expected. Step by step, they invade every branch of the government with the result that parliament has become a figure-head and the members serve solely as a buffer to absorb the shocks of public opinion.

No one is against the war effort. No one, if he be a Canadian in heart and mind may refuse to do his share loyally. We all know that the government cannot see, control, lead, know or do everything; however, the war effort cannot be useful and efficient unless it is based on general policies which our people expect to see carried out in return for their sacrifices.

We believe in the war effort; but it must be rational, that is exempt from the narrowness of views which inspires autocratic government and allows irresponsible parties to transform the authority which has been granted them into dictatorial privileges;

We believe in the war effort, but the legislation, the orders in council, the public orders must converge to a practical end instead of engendering greater evils and culminating in man-made disasters adding to the unrest which is already prevalent;

We believe in the war effort, but it must not become a cause of economic upheaval, by the elimination from our industrial life of small or average industries which have been the mainstay of our country through the ten-year depression and will still be important factors in the post-war rehabilitation;

We believe in the war effort, but it must not be a damper to all intellectual endeavours; if, for example, the war effort demands that the advertising of wine, beer and liquor be prohibited, at least, let us, by some compensation, prevent the liquidation of a number of newspapers of my province and, especially of about forty weeklies which, for years, have established themselves firmly through unpublished sacrifices and devotedness to a cause as a symbol of social progress and public co-operation in the districts they cover;

We believe in the war effort, but, in the army, let it be a further reason to the establishment of a sane and mutual understanding between officers and men; let the rulings concerning postponements requested by soldiers be arrived at in such a way that no chance of unfairness be possible; let some of the medical examiners in the training camps or in appeal centres take the trouble of examining the recruits before deciding that they are fit; these examinations appear to be rather superficial, since a large number of recruits are sent back to civil life a few months after their call, on the ruling of a medical board, this entailing useless expense to the country;

We believe in the war effort, but let it not become, due to over-enthusiasm on the part of certain high officials, a reason for invading the provincial field and upsetting their legislative set-up, especially when their rights and legislative measures are specially important to them;

We believe in the war effort, but let it not be a pretext to those in whom authority is vested and who, for example, are responsible for expropriations, to pose as dictators, to resort to arbitrary actions, to call in the R. C. M. P. even before every possible conciliatory and good-will method has been exhausted;

We believe in the war effort, provided it does not prevent workers to receive fair treatment in war plants, provided the salaries paid in one province are not higher than in another, but are the same all through the country;

We believe in the war effort, provided it is exempt from favouritism, the worst cause of misunderstanding and the most harmful enemy of production; provided it is also exempt from waste, this other enemy which