

SECTION VII

His Excellency's acquaintance with the office of Governor General was not entirely new, for in the summer of 1914, he had been appointed to this office by the late King George V. The onset of the first Great War prevented Lord Athlone's coming to Canada then; and the fortunes of time and circumstance brought him back to Canada, 26 years later, in the midst of a second and even more terrible war.

His Excellency has had a lengthy career of public service in many forms. For half a century, he has been a soldier, and before he came to Canada he had served for nearly eight years as Governor General of the Union of South Africa. We have known of his long connection with the University of London as its Chancellor; and his interest in public education has been demonstrated by his visits to Canadian universities which have honoured him. We have known too of His Excellency's interest in many agencies for social service and the advancement of the public welfare.