

been vouchsafed last autumn to Sir Douglas Haig, the results of the fighting on the Somme would have been very much greater than they proved to be.

But, it seems to me, there is something more than that to encourage us. Let me pause, however, to say that, while I speak with no official information on this subject, I am only giving my own impression to the House as it is derived from the public press. Military experts of neutral nations hold the view very strongly that, at the end of 1916, Germany was not only relatively worse off than she was twelve months before, but actually worse off, so far as the man power of the contending nations is concerned. An apparently very capable man—I do not know his name—who is spoken of as a great military expert, has reviewed the situation very carefully and thoroughly, in an article which I recently read. He gives as the net result of the fighting during the past year an advantage to the Allies of no less than 700,000 men in estimating the casualties on the one side and the other. Remember that the man power of the allied nations is vastly greater than that of the nations with which we are contending. An actual advantage of 700,000 men, means a relative advantage very much greater. It happened that weather conditions on the Somme were not favourable at the end of the year. It happened that in the battle of Jutland two more hours of daylight were needed. If these two more hours of daylight had been vouchsafed to Jellicoe and Beatty, can any one doubt that the German navy would have been crushed? Can any of us doubt that if two or three more weeks of good weather had been given to General Sir Douglas Haig and to the French generals, much greater results than those obtained would have been recorded?

In speaking of the effort of the allied nations, I desire also to add my tribute to the successes which have been won by Italy. I have already spoken of Russia. They are all putting forth great efforts, and it becomes us, as part of an empire which is involved in this struggle, to do our part. And so it is proper for me to review, as I will review in a moment, what we have done in this country since the outbreak of war. My right honourable friend in a very eloquent letter which he recently addressed to the press, through a publication which he controls, used this language.

Reviewing all that has been accomplished during the last thirty months, it is no vain

[Sir Robert Borden.]

national boast that the Canadian people have far exceeded the expectations laid down at the outset.

I think that is a very fair estimate of the situation, and I am thankful that my right hon. friend takes so reasonable a view. We have accomplished a great task in this country, and I give my hon. friend, the late Minister of Militia and Defence (Sir Sam Hughes) all possible credit for his work. He did a great work in assembling on Valcartier Plains and dispatching overseas about 33,000 men within the first six weeks of the war. We thought, and rightly thought, that this was a great thing for a country like ours, quite unprepared for war on a great scale. To-day the casualties in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces number over 70,000, or more than double the number of men that were then gathered together to fight the battles of the Empire. What are our enlistments to-day, and how many men have the citizens of Canada supplied for the purpose of aiding the allied armies to achieve the victory for which we all hope. The enlistments in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces up till to-day number 392,647. Besides that, we have called out of the Active Militia 9,052 men who are now serving under arms, and we have a permanent Force in Canada numbering 2,470 men, making a total of 404,169. In addition to that, we have enlisted from the citizens of Canada in the Canadian naval service 3,310 men, making a total of 407,479. We have done more than that; we have provided for the British Naval Service 1,600 men, we have provided for the Imperial Mechanical Transport 1,200 men and for munition works in Great Britain at least 3,000 men. One thousand six hundred went over through the co-operation of the Department of Labour with Mr. Barnes, now a member of the British Government, and other gentlemen who visited Canada about eighteen months ago. If you add these three items together you have 5,800, which, being added to the previous total, makes 413,279.

But that does not tell the whole tale of what the manhood of Canada has furnished in this war. I applied to the Department of Militia and Defence for a statement of the number of British reservists in Canada who joined the British colours at the commencement of the war. The number given by the Department of Militia and Defence is 2,750, but I am told by those who ought to be in a position to know that this is very much less than the actual number. I am told that very many more than 2,750 British reservists in this country joined the British