

Fund confidently expects will stretch out to 15 or 16 million dollars.

But charities like these, which begin well at home, it has always been found, spread far afield. The Red Cross Society has aided the Red Cross societies of Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia and Montenegro.

Special funds also have been started in Canada and have been carried to a successful conclusion. The claims of Belgium, the first of all the claims, appealed very strongly to the imagination and the sympathies of the Canadian people. Serbia also has been assisted. The fund to relieve Eastern Jews has been handsomely assisted. Within the last few months a fund for the widows and orphans, dependents of British seamen, has met with the handsomest response. I understand that \$50,000,000 has been contributed by the people of Canada to these various philanthropic and beneficent purposes within these last years.

But these contributions and the loans which have been made to help the fighting forces have been made possible only by the saving of the Canadian people. Although we are in the race, we do not know how long it will be before the winning post is reached; but to continue in the race means thrift, more thrift, and always thrift. The figures with which I have been dealing have been large: \$100,000,000 to the loan, \$150,000,000 in aid of the Imperial purchases in this country, and forty or fifty millions of philanthropic money, mean a good deal. While they undoubtedly mean a heavy burden upon us and upon future generations, a burden which we are bound to meet and bound to pay, for the sake of what the result will mean to us, it is not a matter for discouragement. Those who have actual money in their safes are the keenest critics of the resources of the people who come to them with promises to pay in future. Wall street and the United States are in a better position than any other people to know what are the resources of Canada and what are the probabilities that Canada will meet any obligations that she may undertake. They know the situation, for they have examined it. It is a proud thing for Canada to be able to say that, notwithstanding these large burdens, her obligation in the exchanges of the United States sell on as favourable terms as the loans of France, the loans of Great Britain, and that loan which is backed not only by the great resources of Great Britain, but as well by the thrift and the specie of France.

In carrying on this war the aim of our military organization has been two-fold: first to turn citizens into soldiers, and get them to the front; secondly to take those soldiers, their service done, and turn them back into citizens, bettered, as far as may be, from their experiences at the front. The Militia Department has equipped and put under arms 380,000 men. In the second case it is with the disabled and the invalided we have to deal. The Military Hospitals Commission of which Sir James Loughheed is chairman, and of which I have the honour to be a member, has passed through its institutions some 9,000 invalided. We are now extending our work as the calls on us increase, and within a week or two we shall have no less than 64 institutions, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, fully equipped for the care of between eight and nine thousand invalids at one time. Our problem is to do the best we can for the invalided soldier. That consists in his restoration, as far as it is possible for medical skill to restore him, to the complete use of his functions—and medical skill has made enormous advances within the last few years. The skill of Canadian medical men has been freely placed at our disposal. Then, that man has to be re-educated, improved, during his stay in our convalescent homes, or, it may be, trained to take a new employment; and then employment has to be found for him. The latter work is being carried on by our allies, the Provincial Soldiers' Aid Commissions. In every province of this Dominion there is an organization to take care of the man when the Hospitals Commission has done its best for him. Then, in an other allied work, there has to be a repayment, as far as repayment is possible, of the obligations the country owes to the man who has been permanently injured in his country's service. That is taken up by a Pensions Board which has made a very careful study of what has been done in all countries; and that Board is promptly and effectively dealing with one of the most delicate and intricate problems that can arise out of the war.

There is but one other point of the Speech from the Throne to which I shall direct your attention. It is that which speaks of the fifty years which have passed since the scattered provinces in this part of the British Empire were brought together in Confederation. The older of us are apt to forget, the younger people never knew, how difficult, how dangerous, and how uncertain