

have a chance to obtain their settlements. Now, if, generally speaking, my idea was to do something for the benefit of the returned man, it was because last session we voted some \$3,000,000 for the obtaining of land for farm settlement, and as the allotment of money for this purpose has now been considerably increased, I have no doubt the vote this year will be very much larger, and while it is of great importance that we should encourage in every way the settlement of soldiers upon the land that they may produce and make Canada the great agricultural country she is bound to be, yet there are others of the soldiers who are not minded to go upon the farms. It is for the purpose of doing something for these that I introduce this motion for the consideration of the House. Many men who have returned and who are expert in mechanics of one sort or another, or in trades, have been partially injured, not only in limb, but in spirit. Many of them have never been on farms and would not face the dangers and rigours of farm life. In fact, some of them would shrink, and their wives and families too would shrink, from moving out of the environment in which they have always lived, to remote distances, not knowing what the future would be. It is for such men as these that I now plead; so that we will be only dealing fairly with all classes of returned men when we help the mechanic and tradesman, as the motion says, to "look forward to the future with confidence," because that is one of the greatest things before his mind which will induce him to become a well man in the future. It is the lack of confidence and the nervousness as to what his future is to be that is retarding the recovery of many a man to-day. Therefore, these communities should be erected not far away from cities, so that they would be suburbs in a way—not too near to make it too expensive to acquire the land, nor afterwards to keep up the town, nor on the other hand too far away to take the men and their families away from the pleasures of the city, the lecture, concert, or moving picture, or any other purpose for which they may wish to come into the city, one of the great objects being that they may not feel lonely or isolated in the places that may be chosen. It is only by keeping that idea in mind at the very initiation of this plan that you will probably make it entirely popular; though I think that once it is adopted it will be popular from the start. The villages should be near radial lines of railway, so that the time taken in getting

to the city should not be great, and so that the men who are injured in limb would not have any difficulty in going back and forth. The land, say, six, seven, eight or ten miles from a city, or from most cities, is agricultural land and can be acquired at agricultural prices. I know a farm near the city of Toronto of 300 acres which can be acquired at \$75 an acre. I have not gone any further in my investigation, but I imagine that a whole farm of about 500 acres in a beautiful situation near a river, undulating and of good soil could be got at \$100 an acre. Well, that is not a forbidding proposal in the way of an establishment. Then if that can be done in Toronto, I suppose it can be done in eight other cities in the Dominion.

I omitted to mention the fact, which is apparent to me anyway, that there is a strong desire on the part of returned men for domesticity. The returned man has been through four years of hell, of misery, and he has been away from his people all that time. If he is not married he wants to become married at once. He wants to become domestic, to bring up a family, and not to be subject to the anxieties which would beset him in a city like Toronto at any rate, as mentioned in the resolution of the Great War Veterans, where he has nothing to look forward to but a few rooms in an apartment house. That strong feeling of domesticity that is pervading the ranks of returned men should, I think, be satisfied by a generous Government, so that the men would know soon how they could be housed, and not only housed for the time being, but given a permanent and a definite home. Then what is to be the life of the man and his family in the industrial suburb? My idea would be that at least 150 houses, or say 200 houses, should be erected in each community, to start with; and if those were taken up, as I am sure they would be very readily, and if there were a family of five on an average in each house, you would have a village community of 1,000 people. Most of these men would be in receipt of a pension, of a greater or less amount; but if they knew that they could supplement that pension by engaging in trades which could be properly conducted in their own homes, or in their own localities, think what an incentive it would be to these men to adopt and try to carry out such a scheme as this! In the old days there were very few factories, or establishments, or works, the reason being that all power was hand power. But now, when power is concen-