

Shall Canada Claim a War Indemnity?

No more important and far reaching question has arisen in the Dominion during the fifty years that have elapsed since the scattered provinces became united under a Federal system of government than is contained in the enquiry, "Shall Canada claim a war indemnity?"

It is officially announced by the Unionist Government Press that the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, will represent Canada as an associate of the British plenipotentiaries at the General Peace Conference, whenever that exceedingly responsible body shall be called together. When one recalls to mind the Peace Conference of Vienna which decreed the abdication of Napoleon Bonaparte and his banishment to the Island of Elba more than a century ago, and how their efforts to secure a permanent peace were shortly afterwards outwitted by that illustrious genius, a clearer appreciation is secured of the tremendous responsibilities that must be assumed by the coming Conference in order to provide the necessary guarantees that will render it impossible for history to repeat itself in the person of the "Madman of Europe."

Sir Robert Borden's responsibility to the world is, therefore, of no ordinary character. But this will not by any means relieve him of his greater personal responsibility to the electorate of his own country.

DISCUSSION OF PEACE TERMS

Prominent newspapers in Quebec, Ontario, and Western Provinces, supporting the Union Government, have recently published editorials dealing with questions which will arise more immediately concerning European countries, and advising the Prime Minister as to the course which he should adopt at the Conference. *The Globe*, however, in the issue of Monday, October 21st, casually refers to a subject of special interest to the Canadian people in the following paragraph:—