

should enter into such a peace, the most basic and dominating principle, which must overshadow every other provision, is that Germany should be so driven in this war as to be forced to give assurance to civilization that the military power and brutality of German militarism will in future be unknown in the fabric of our civilization. This has been the overwhelming cause and factor and force underlying this gigantic struggle; and until this cause is eradicated humanity will have no assurance against a return at any time of this the most brutal and destructive demon that has ever been let loose upon the free peoples of Europe.

It is a matter of gratification that the Government of the United Kingdom, as indicated in the Speech from the Throne, have invited the first ministers of the Dominions to participate in the deliberations of the War Cabinet. While this may in a sense be regarded as a concession to the Overseas Dominions owing to the policy which has hitherto been pursued by the Government of the United Kingdom, yet it is not more than the recognition, both constitutional and moral, that should be accorded to the self-governing Dominions of the Empire. It is a matter for comment that notwithstanding the important part played by the Overseas Dominions in the destinies of the Empire, greater advantage has not been taken by the Government of the United Kingdom in seeking the assistance of the different parts of the Empire in dealing with Imperial questions. The war has particularly accentuated the change which must come in this direction. Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and the other Overseas Dominions are as much interested in the destiny of the Empire, and have proportionately suffered as much, as the United Kingdom, and hereafter their interests in the Empire must be consulted by the Government of the United Kingdom concerning affairs of the Empire. Out of the war must be built up an Imperial edifice including the self-governing parts of the Empire that will stand forth as an evidence to the world of the unity and consolidation of a people, united in one constitutional whole for all the beneficent services that can be rendered to humanity.

Probably the greatest problem that Canada will have to consider after the war will be the demobilization of our Canadian forces, their return to Canada and their absorption into the civilian life of the

country. Large and important questions must necessarily grow out of this subject. This will not only involve absorbing into civilian channels those who have so gallantly defended their country during the war, but must also involve questions dealing with the diversion of labour from the channel in which it has been engaged, such as munitions, etc., within the boundaries of Canada. Labour problems of the most difficult character will have to be worked out by the Government. These questions will particularly concern the finding of employment for the many thousands of men who will find themselves unemployed through the extraordinary conditions which will have occurred, and the duty will also fall, not only upon this Government, but upon the provinces of Canada, to deal with the large questions which we shall have to settle on the cessation of the war. New channels of industry will have to be opened up, problems of a Federal or provincial nature touching the development of Canada will have to be grappled with. The establishment of new industries, and those on a large scale, can alone satisfy the employment requirements with which we shall be confronted. It is difficult, if not impossible, at the moment, to outline how these questions can best be solved. Suffice it to say that the national enterprise and patriotism of the people of Canada should be sufficient to deal with them. The settlement of our lands and the development of our natural resources will necessarily demand special attention when this period arrives. Already the Government has given consideration to these problems. Entirely apart from settling returned soldiers upon our lands and adopting such steps as the Government may take for their employment, the development of our resources, including the settlement of our lands, is probably the most important question with which Canada has to deal.

The Address very fittingly refers to the proposed celebration of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of our Dominion. For half a century Canada has been laying wide and deep the foundations of its national edifice to establish on the northern half of the American continent a people with all the virility, energy and enterprise of the races from which they have sprung. Notwithstanding the magnificent heritage which we possess, a heritage equal in all its possibilities to that of the great republic to the south of us, we must confess disappointment at the growth which has taken place during the half century which has passed since Canada laid the foundation of