

FOREWORD

BY THE
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IN the early days of the war somebody invented for Canadian use the slogan, "Business as Usual." Probably it served a good purpose in constantly reminding us that there was much to be done beyond the drill halls and the camp grounds in planning for Canada's part in the winning of the war. The slogan is seldom used now. It is no longer appropriate. The people are awakening to the fact that neither in the arena of commerce nor in the world of public affairs will it hereafter be sufficient to carry on business "as usual", and that conditions are arising which call for new thought and new effort.

"New occasions teach new duties,
Time makes ancient good uncouth,
He must upward still and onward,
Who would keep abreast of truth."

But while the situation is thus calling for new lines of thought and action, it is full of hope and encouragement. If Canada has much to do to meet the new conditions, she can face the task with courage and confidence, for she has proved her capacity for doing to an extent that is surprising to many of her people. In various ways she has given evidence that when the right spirit prevails, when her people are heartily united, they can do great things.

On the side of military organization for the war, although there is still much to be done to raise the full force desired, what has already been accomplished is remarkable, considering that our citizens in time past have given so little attention to military affairs. For a people, devoted through all their lives to the arts of peace, to raise in two years, under a voluntary system, three hundred and fifty thousand men for the war, armed and equipped, a large portion of them sufficiently qualified by training and service to enable them to take their place with Britain's finest soldiery on the battlefields of France and Belgium, is an achievement of which Canadians may well be proud. In the field of munition making, too, wonders have been accomplished. The mechanical skill of our workmen has been developed in a striking manner, until our factories are able to take a part in the production of munitions which is contributing materially to the Empire's war service. In the field of finance remarkable things have been accomplished. Accustomed as we were for generations to look to Great Britain for most of the capital required for the development of the country, we had to face a stoppage of that supply, except that a sum has been loaned by the Imperial Government to meet part of our war expenses in Europe. This stoppage of money from England was at the beginning a cause of much anxiety to all concerned in financial affairs. But the situation has been bravely faced. The Canadian banking institutions and the Canadian people have been able to finance Canada's needs to a very gratifying extent. Immense sums have been raised by our own people for the war service, and more can be provided when it is required. In the great primary industry of agriculture, while sending many of our farmers to the war, Canada has carried on the work of production efficiently, growing and harvesting last year an enormous crop, and giving promise of an output this year which, while short of that of 1915, will still be a large harvest. All the immediate problems in military, financial and industrial affairs have been met with a courage and a success which may well hearten our people and give them new confidence in the future of the country. Burdens the war is bringing, and there will be heavier ones to come. But they are met bravely and borne cheerfully.

The end of the war will present in their most urgent form new problems that are now coming into view, and many old ones will require more serious consideration than they have usually received in the past. To provide for the care of those who return from the war in a disabled condition, and for the families of those who have given their lives for the Empire; to replace in the work of civil life those who will no longer wear the Khaki; to find employment in the ordinary business of the country for the many who are now temporarily employed in the making of munitions; to bring into Canada the best class of immigrants and to lead them into the lines of occupation best adapted to their condition and most likely to make for the development of the country; to enlarge our home industry by supplying from our own factories, efficiently and economically, many of the things that in the past have been brought from the countries that are now our enemies, countries with which we shall hereafter desire to trade little if at all; to strengthen and broaden our relations with our ordinary markets; to look abroad and avail ourselves of the opportunities for marketing the products of our various industries in friendly countries with which we have heretofore had but few dealings; to improve the condition of the masses of the people, so that patient toil and faithful service shall have their reward in comfortable and happy homes; to make the work of government, Federal, Provincial and Municipal, clean, intelligent and in harmony with the progressive spirit of the age; to equitably distribute the burdens of the war so that they may fall as lightly as is reasonably possible on those to whom the battle of life is hardest; to find a common ground upon which the sometimes conflicting interests of East and West may be brought together; to promote toleration and mutual respect between races and creeds, and harmony and co-operation between labor and capital, so that there may be unity of effort to create an intelligent, patriotic and God-fearing citizenship—these things open out a field of opportunity and of duty that appeals to all that is best in Canadian life. There is every reason to hope and to believe that the appeal will not be in vain.

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