

pensions will be \$78,000,000. There are heavy expenditures for re-education, which probably will have to be increased.

Over the demand of the Great War Veterans for further gratuities of \$1,000 for all soldiers who saw service in Canada only, of \$1,500 for all who saw service in England only, and of \$2,000 for all who saw service in the trenches there has been much excited controversy. Those who oppose estimate the total amount required to meet the demand at \$954,554,000; those who favour at \$250,000,000. Probably the first estimate is excessive and certainly the second is inadequate. The veterans are not united in support of the full demand, but unquestionably there is strong and general support for further consideration.

Something yet
for the veterans

There is grave disparity in the treatment accorded to soldiers who adopt farming and those who elect to follow other callings. But many of those whose businesses were destroyed or who had just entered the university in training for the professions find themselves in a very difficult position. They have lost four or five years of the natural period of training. They will be thirty years of age or even older before they can complete their courses. They are not equipped for any avocation at which they can earn a livelihood. Surely many of these must have generous consideration if they are not to go through life handicapped and penalized for heroic services to the State which they defended.

No such acute problem exists in the United States, where at most the soldiers were withdrawn for only two years from their chosen studies and pursuits. In many of its phases the problem may be difficult, but it is impossible to think that the obligation of the State to soldiers in this difficult situation has been fulfilled by the pensions, gratuities and bonuses which have been granted. The country cannot be and will not be required to provide additional gratuities of \$1,000,000,000, but there is something yet to be done before equal treatment will be extended to all classes of veterans, and one can only believe that the Government has the disposition and will have the resource to discover the solution which equity requires and justice demands. There may have been intemperate writing and speaking in the agitation for additional gratuities, but a movement in which there is a principle of justice may not be defeated, although it may be injured, by intemperate advocacy.

IV

IT cannot be doubted that the National Industrial Conference produced a better understanding between employers and workers in Canada. Upon vital questions discussed there was no agreement, and alike among the leaders of Labour and the leaders of Industry were differences which were not expressed in the resolutions submitted. It is said that too many questions were left unsettled and that too many Commissions of Inquiry were suggested. But in this the Conference revealed its wisdom.

The
Industrial
Conference

Take, for example, the demand of the Labour delegates for an eight-hour day. It was admitted as the debate proceeded that a universal eight-hour day for Canada was im-