

who are in direct touch with affairs and who will consent to assist us.

I should like to relate a touching experience, as an illustration of the sympathy prevalent here: a straightforward looking Canadian business man entered my office the other day telling me that he had been a prisoner of war in Germany, heavily wounded, and later on released to be interned in Switzerland, where he regained his health. He found Swiss ways sympathetic and wanted now to represent certain Swiss firms, being happy, he told me to help us in our export to Canada as a sign of gratitude for what our country had so gladly offered him.

2. Intellectual Intercourse.

Although we all fully realize the necessity and great importance of development of reciprocal trade, you will certainly agree with me that commercial ends do not fill a man's life and can eventually not prove an absolute and lasting tie between two friendly nations. The trade, if understood in a fair way and without overstepping the rules of legitimate competition, should work hand-in-hand with an intellectual intercourse, by which I mean a thorough understanding of the political institutions of each country, of the aspirations and ideals of its people, a study of the conduct of education and of the expressions of science, literature and art. There is certainly a moral obligation for two nations, who are members of the League of Nations (in Switzerland we wait only for the expression of the popular vote which will, I hope sincerely, ratify the decision of the Federal Parliament to join the League) to know each other.

It should be very interesting for Canadians to study the political institutions of Switzerland, the oldest Republic and Democracy in the world, where political expression is the result of the will of the people crystallized through hundreds of years. To my mind there is nothing more interesting for us than to acquire a knowledge of the wonderful political structure in which Canada found its strength and an assertion of itself as a young and self-confident nation giving its subjects real democratic freedom, but still