

present purpose to comment upon that. I am concerned merely with the fact.

This means that French-speaking Canadians are not represented either in the Cabinet or on the government side of the house. That being the case, it has been suggested that they be given representation by inviting Sir Wilfrid Laurier to enter the cabinet. This, it is said, would be a graceful act. It would also be supremely silly.

Sir Wilfrid, when invited to enter a coalition, on equal terms, to give effect to the very policy which the Union government was subsequently elected to carry out, refused because he was opposed to that policy. He has given no indication of a change of views, and it is most unlikely that he has changed them. Therefore, it is scarcely possible that he would consent to enter the cabinet. The suggestion of inclusion is impractical, its genesis mawkish sentimentality. Little better is the suggestion that Quebec be combed fine for a representative French-Canadian, who should be given a seat in some other province, because he could not possibly be elected as a Union supporter in Quebec itself.

It is mere common sense to point out that Quebec is entitled to elect and has elected her own members, in accordance with her constitutional right, and nobody else has any business to do it for her. Nor has anybody any business to decrease the cabinet representation of other provinces which support the government in order to give increased representation to Quebec, which does not. Quebec is represented in the House by sixty-five members, elected in accord-

ance with her political views. That sixty-two of them are in Opposition is the fortune of politics. Quebec is represented exactly as she chose to be. She had the opportunity of electing French-speaking supporters of Union, and refused. She has ample opportunity to express her opinions in parliament. The government was placed in power to give effect to opinions the exact reverse of those of the sixty-two opposition members from Quebec, and the government should remember it.

The proposal to bring men into a cabinet to represent a province in which they cannot be elected is nonsense, quite different from opening a seat in another province for a minister as a mere matter of convenience, as was once done in Carleton for Sir Robert Borden. The French-speaking Unionists in Quebec are very much in the minority. Quebec now has two cabinet ministers out of three government supporters elected, which is a generous cabinet representation.

In spite of their tremendous majority, the first thing ministers and members should get firmly fixed in their minds is that they are really on probation. Canada expects a good deal, and a square deal. The people who elected them yesterday will demand their heads to-morrow, and get them, too, if they fail to make plain, visible effort to fulfil the country's expectations. Canada should not, and will not, stand a repetition of the mistakes of the old Borden Government. She overlooked a good deal, one way and another, on the part of that government, recognizing that it had a hard, heavy, new job, and was more

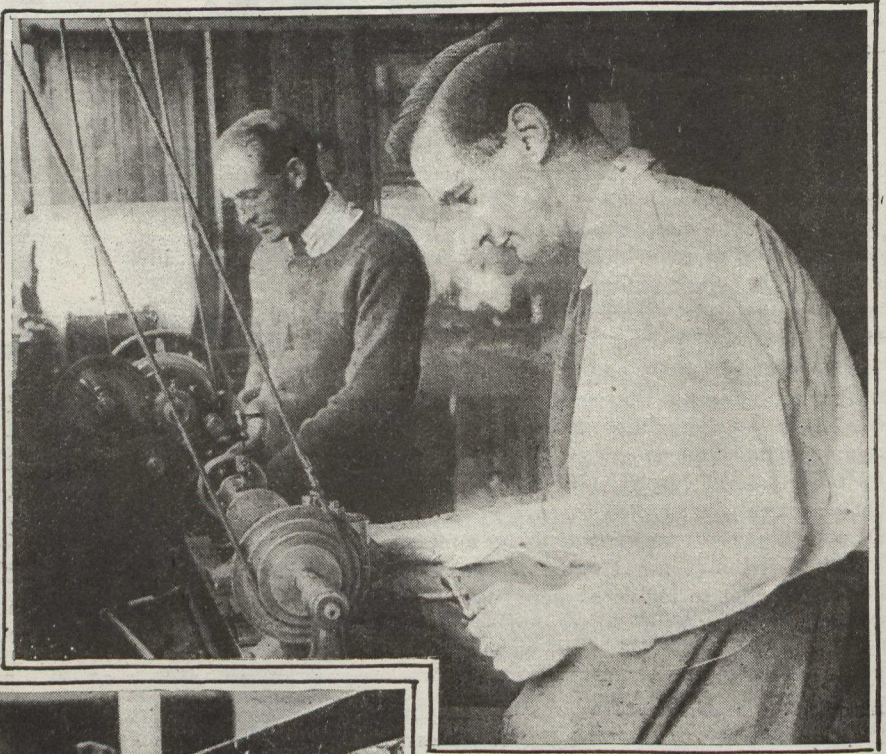
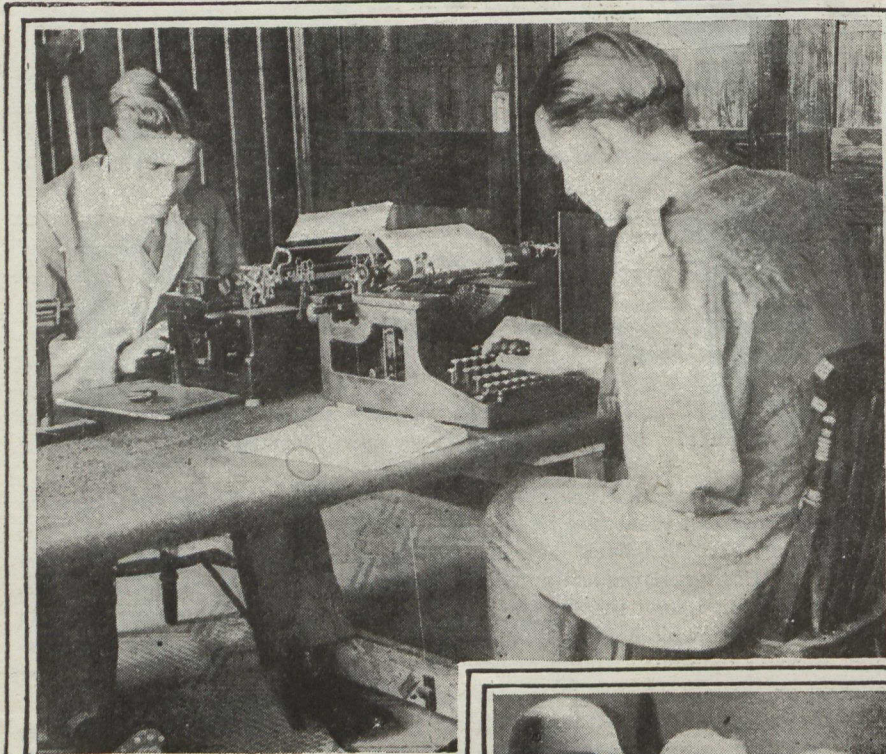
or less handicapped in many ways. But the new government was elected for the specific purpose of handling affairs properly in war-time, and it must make good or make room.

Which applies also to any minister who may be under the delusion that his main job ended with the last election, and that he is entitled to rest up for the next, or who for any reason whatever does not make good.

Not every government up to date has been an up-to-date government. Every government has carried a good deal of deadwood. Occasionally it has been at the top. There have been ministers with swelled heads and ministers with bone heads—not that there is much distinction. Some have been too lazy to turn over in bed; and others seldom went to bed. Certain bucked the society game, to the neglect of their jobs; and others bucked other games with like result. In fact, though it may not be generally known, the bulk of the work of some governments has been done by a few REAL men—who seldom got credit for it. These did not only their own departmental work, but that of others; did most of the parliamentary and committee work; coached and developed promising material among young members, among whom, by the way, was a lawyer from Halifax named R. L. Borden; dug information out of its original bed rock, compiled it laboriously and handed it on to those who were too lazy or hadn't the ability to dig it out themselves; and were always on the job, while the men whose work they were doing were giving good imitations of overworked statesmen.

BEGINNING WHERE THEY DIDN'T LEAVE OFF

Returned Men, Legless, Armless, Blind, Learn to Get Hold of the World's Work Again



HALF the men in the world before the war made their living at trades and callings for which they had no special aptitude. A man may elect to become a barber who should have been a printer; and a good salesman might have made a better engineer. Technical colleges have never taught half of mankind what to do for a living. War drove millions of men away from the things they had learned in peace. War is sending back hundreds of thousands who can never again pick up where they left off. The average returned soldier can't work at his old trade. He must learn another. He swaps jobs. He finds out that though he has lost a leg he has gained a new line of work; having lost an arm he can use his brain better on a job needing but one arm.

A recent report of the Pensions Hospital on this strange job-swapping of returned soldiers points out that men with artificial arms have left the Hospital as clerks, telephone operators, commercial travellers, and teachers, and take up various less skilled occupations; to those who have lost a leg a wider field of employment is naturally opened; such men have found work as tailors, boot-



makers, chauffeurs, electrical engineers, van men, painters, grooms, and motor mechanics; a farm laborer became a cinematograph operator, and a collier a leather worker; but perhaps the most striking instance is that of a chimney sweep who became a clerk as a result of losing a limb.

A blind man at St. Dunstan's is taught to read on the Braille system, and encouraged to use the Braille library at the Hospital and also to write on a specially arranged typewriter, which becomes his own when the course is finished; he is taught music, to sing, if he has any inclination to do so, to play draughts, cards, dominoes, etc. Most important of all he is taught a trade. Men have been trained at St. Dunstan's to take up typing, shorthand, massage, telephone operating, poultry

farming and other occupations such as mat making and basket making, which require less skill. That the success of these methods is the rule and not the exception is shown by the fact that of 774 men who had passed through St. Dunstan's from the beginning of the war to the end of September, 1917, only 41 had left untrained or untrainable.