

done by the voice of the public will throughout the whole Dominion. Canada's manifest course was to contribute men and arms and food supplies. The extent to which this assistance should be given has been more clearly defined through the correspondence which has taken place between the Imperial Authorities and our own Government. Steps were at once taken for the organization of a Canadian contingent equivalent to an Army Division, to form part of the Imperial Forces and to be subject to the orders of the Imperial authorities. Canada has accordingly organized a force consisting of the following units:—Divisional headquarters; 3 infantry brigades of 12 battalions of infantry; headquarters divisional artillery with 3 field artillery brigades of 9 batteries, and 1 field artillery howitzer brigade of 3 batteries; 1 heavy battery and ammunition column; 1 divisional ammunition column; 1 headquarters divisional engineers; 2 field companies of engineers; 1 signalling company; 1 squadron of cavalry; 1 divisional train and 3 field ambulances, making a total of, roughly, about 600 officers and 17,500 men with 72 field guns and howitzers, and about 5,600 horses. In addition to this, about 2,000 men are left at the base, as what are called "first re-enforcements," making in all, roughly, about 21,000 men.

This force is now being mobilized in camp at Val-Cartier with a view of being subjected to a more advanced organization before leaving our shores for the seat of war. In addition thereto, the Government has contributed a million bags of flour. The Government has also purchased from the Chilean Government at a cost of one million dollars two new sub-marines, the construction of which had just been completed in the shipyards of Seattle. These will be used for purposes of defence on the Pacific coast. We have also tendered to the French Government for use of the army of France substantial aid for their hospital work. Munificent assistance has also been tendered by Provincial Governments, Municipalities and individuals. Mere words cannot express the loyalty, the patriotism, the self-sacrifice, generosity and devotion exhibited by the whole of Canada in responding to the call of Empire at this time. It was not necessary for the Government of Canada to make an appeal to the country for the assistance which had been proffered. The spontaneous response of the people has been overwhelming and the chief difficulty

of the Government has been to keep within bounds the wishes and the demands of the able-bodied men of Canada in the tendering of their services to be sent to the seat of war.

Owing to the war being in its initial stages and the uncertainty of the developments that will ensue, it is, therefore, impossible at the moment to say the extent to which Canada may be called upon to render further assistance. Up to the present time the measure of assistance proffered to the empire has met with the most gratifying reception in Great Britain. The sentiment invoked by Canada and the other overseas dominions has been more valuable to the Imperial authorities and will give greater prestige to Imperial arms than the material value measured by men and treasure. We cannot overestimate the value to Great Britain of the spontaneous answer of loyalty and devotion given by the overseas dominions at a moment when a common danger threatens the integrity of the empire.

To meet the extraordinary situation which has arisen it has been necessary for the Government of Canada to meet the exigencies which have presented themselves in anticipation of legislation being passed giving extraordinary powers to the Government. Such a situation not having before arisen in our history our statute book is therefore destitute of what I might term war legislation; consequently measures will be submitted to cover the extraordinary powers which the Government has been called upon and will be called upon to exercise at this critical period.

This is the first time in the history of Canada since it has enjoyed representative institutions that we have been called upon to adopt special measures in aid of the empire by reason of a European war. It is the first time we have been called upon to maintain our integrity as an integral part of the empire against a European enemy. There was a time when Canada was the battlefield between England and France, in which each sought to wrest from the other the possessions held by both on this continent. There was a time when the Crown Colonies in Canada resisted the invading army of the American Republic when it sought to include our territory within its boundaries. There was a time within recent years when Canada responded to the call of the empire on the battlefields of South Africa, but in none of these events did Canada occupy the unique position which in the present conflict she occu-