

Although the situation of the Canadians regarding reinforcements appeared to be satisfactory so long as the number of Divisions in the field was not increased, a proposal was made to adopt an organization similar to the British, that is, to reduce the number of Battalions in the Canadian Infantry Brigades from four to three. Concurrently with this change, it was proposed to increase the number of Canadian Divisions in the field from four to six.

"I did not think that this proposal was warranted by our experience in the field, and I was quite certain that, owing to the severity of the losses suffered in modern battles, the manpower of Canada was not sufficient to meet the increased exposure to casualties consequent on the increased number of Canadian Divisions in the field.

"I represented very strongly my views to the Minister, Overseas Military Forces of Canada, and, on further consideration, it was decided to drop this project and to accept instead my counter-proposal, viz., to increase the establishment of the Canadian Infantry Battalion by 100 of all ranks, to proceed with the reorganization of the Engineers and Machine-Gun Services, and to grant the various amendments suggested by establishments of other Arms and Branches. I am glad to be able to say that my proposals regarding the reorganization of Engineer Services, Machine-Guns, etc., as well as the increase of strength of the Infantry Battalions, received the favorable consideration and support of the Commander-in-Chief."

Commenting on this, the Canadian Overseas Minister, Sir Edward Kemp, says:—"The Canadian Corps in the existing formation had proved itself a smooth-running machine of tremendous striking power, and any radical alteration in its constitution might have resulted in a reduction of such power without any compensating advantages. At a time of national crisis, such as that in the spring of 1918, it would not have been permissible to allow sentiment to stand in the way of any change likely to further the common cause. Every soldier would have been prepared to sacrifice the pride which he had

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