

CANADA'S RELATION TO THE GREAT WAR

these organizations many of our young officers have been obtained. In the honor roll of Victoria Crosses and Distinguished Service Orders Canadian sportsmen have glorious representation. I think of a church in Toronto which had a football club when the war began. All but three of its members enlisted. A second club was organized and all enlisted. Among the officers, and among the privates, too, of Canadian regiments are many young men who were social leaders, who held very responsible positions in banking and financial institutions, who directed important manufacturing and commercial enterprises, and who have sacrificed income and prospects for what they conceive to be the supreme duty of a British citizen in this crisis in British history. The other day at the camp in Toronto a private asked the permission of his Commanding Officer to discard his uniform for a social event which he desired to attend, and he returned in a dress suit and his own motor.

May I ask you to remember that we are not an English-speaking country as is Great Britain, or Australia or New Zealand. We have at most 8,000,000 people, and of these 3,000,000 do not habitually speak the English language. It is true that the French are open to the appeal of race as well as to the appeal of country. They are under the impulse of a double or a threefold loyalty; to France, whence they have their language and their literature; to Great Britain, whence came their free institutions and which guarantees their racial and religious privileges, and to Canada, in which they have free and equal citizenship. In the early days of the war a French-Canadian, visiting Toronto, said: "You ver quiet here in Toronto. In Quebec we mak the gran speeches. Our two muzzers, our two muzzers, we love zem both, France and England." But we have also nearly 700,000 Germans and Austrians, chiefly in Ontario and the Western Provinces, whose position is admittedly delicate and difficult, but who under all the circumstances have been reasonably submissive to the obligations of Canadian citizenship. And we have two or