

or church interests would govern. (Applause.) After the struggle of the first few weeks the men who sought contracts and the men who thought that they should have them came to realize that there was no favour in connection with the work and administration of the Board. There was general acceptance of the situation, and we have had the satisfaction of carrying on our work in accordance with the above principle. (Hear, hear.)

May I here raise a question and ask you as men who must consider things that will happen after the war to query whether in any respect the accident which led to the formation of a Board in Canada to administer on behalf of another Government a great trust, affords an illustration that may be of value to the student who is considering after-war conditions and the relations between various parts of the Empire? For I presume there will be agreement on all sides that, however excellently we have been served by the rather nondescript character of our relations within the Empire, it is inconceivable that we shall go on without some change in the existing condition when the war is over. (Applause.) May I suggest to you who will give consideration to such matters that here is a body of men charged with the duty of administering for a Government across the sea a business requiring a greater expenditure in the country in which they are placed than the expenditure for maintenance of the Government in the country itself, and that there has been no friction nor misunderstanding with the Government of the country, or irregularity in relation to any of the operations that have been carried on. It is possible that if the Government of Great Britain was truly an Imperial Government, the administration of overseas business on its behalf may be illustrated to some extent by what has been happening during this past year under the administration of this Board.

May I say a word as to manufacturers? My friends of the press, who are always looking for copy that will make a good headline, sometimes, without intending to mislead, give emphasis to some part of a statement which, separated from its collateral matter, leaves a wrong impression. May I say to you, the work which has been accomplished by this Board could only have been done through the co-operation of the manufacturers of the