

organize a French Canadian Brigade under the new Military Service Regulations.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: The Minister of Militia and Defence will give a reply at some later date to my hon. friend. I do not think there is sufficient material available just at present to organize a brigade. A suggestion has, however, been made as to more units at the front of distinctively French Canadian personnel. That matter is under consideration.

CANADIAN WAR MEMORIAL FUND.

On the Orders of the Day:

Right Hon. Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are called, I might make an announcement with regard to some very valuable paintings which have been secured for this country through the instrumentality of the Canadian War Memorial Fund. On March 20th, I gave an answer to a question which is to be found at pp. 52-53 of Hansard, in which the work of the Canadian War Records Office was briefly outlined. It was not then stated that in connection with the Canadian War Records there has been established a Canadian War Memorial Fund, which has acquired fairly large proportions through the services and exertions of Lord Beaverbrook, and also through the assistance of many prominent men in Great Britain, particularly Lord Rothermere, who took over the exclusive rights of reproducing as postal cards, or as cards of similar size, the Canadian official war photographs, under an arrangement by which the entire net proceeds are to be handed over to the Canadian War Memorial Fund. The service and the advertising performed by the press under the direction of Lord Rothermere were given absolutely without any charge whatever.

The purpose of the Canadian War Memorial Fund is by paintings, by photographs, and by the erection of memorials to aid in perpetuating the memory of what Canada has accomplished in this war. I am informed by the Advisory Arts Council of Canada, of which Sir Edmund Walker is Chairman, that recently, through the efforts of Lord Beaverbrook, co-operating with the Advisory Arts Council, the Canadian Government, or the Canadian people rather, have come into possession of three pictures which are said by competent judges to be the three greatest art treasures connected with the history of Canada. It appears that some time ago the Advisory Arts Council had endeavoured to obtain the portrait

by Sir Thomas Lawrence of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the discoverer and explorer of the Mackenzie river which was named for him. The Advisory Arts Council took up the matter recently with Lord Beaverbrook, and he was able, by the arrangements which he had made in connection with the Canadian War Memorial Fund, to secure this valuable painting, which is now the property of the people of Canada.

There is, however, another picture which, as I am informed, the Advisory Arts Council have been seeking to obtain for many years, and that is the great picture of Brant by Romney. The Advisory Arts Council have been in communication with Lord Beaverbrook with regard to that portrait, and they have recently been advised that this picture has also been secured by him and that it is now the property of the Canadian people.

The third picture is a very celebrated painting, West's "Death of Wolfe." The Chairman of the Advisory Arts Council has within the past few days received the following cablegram from Lord Beaverbrook, showing that this famous picture has been presented by the Duke of Westminster, through Lord Beaverbrook, to the Canadian War Memorial Fund. The telegram received by Sir Edmund Walker reads:

Death of Wolfe received from Duke of Westminster and letter as follows: "I send you the picture of the Death of Wolfe which has hung at Eaton since my great, great, great grandfather purchased it from the painter. Very gladly give it to the Canadian War Memorials Fund in token of my great appreciation for the magnificent part Canada is playing in the great war."

The particulars of the picture are set forth in the telegram as follows:

Painted by Sir Benjamin West, second president of the Royal Academy and purchased by Richard Lord Grosvenor 1775 and placed in panel at Eaton Hall. This is the first battle picture in which figures were represented in contemporary uniform. Sir Joshua Reynolds implored West to abandon that idea saying it was against all traditions and would thereby lose grace and elegance. West answered "What I lose in grace I shall gain in simplicity." Sir Joshua Reynolds expressed great admiration for picture.

I am also happy to inform the House that the Advisory Arts Council have, through Lord Beaverbrook, secured a portrait of Sir John Franklin. This is said to be a very fine portrait, and I believe it was secured at a very trifling cost. I am sure the members of the House will join in appreciation of the splendid gift which the Duke of Westminster has