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not engage in new industrial experiments or the production of commodities unless it has some assurance that it is not taking unnecessary risks, and will after a given period, obtain some return on the capital invested. This is one of the phases of that readjustment that Mr. McLean and his committee are evidently giving serious consideration.

The average citizen, in spite of all the criticism levelled at the Government and the members thereof, regards one and the other as almost omnipotent. He forgets that a Government is only an aggregation of citizens like himself and as a general rule of average intelligence. They have no magic wand with which wonders can be performed but must depend upon their own knowledge and the information which they acquire through third parties. This involves delay which causes bitterness and awakens ill will on the part of the public towards the Government.

Although the Canadian Government has shown a commendable willingness to do all that can be done to facilitate the readjusting of industrial conditions, some hardship is inevitable in so far as it affects the great bulk of the working men of this country. The various plans and programmes that have already been drafted have so far, not come into actual operation. Committees have to be named and commissions appointed and in the meantime idle labour becomes obstreperous.

It has been stated that the high wages earned have no doubt been the means of permitting the workers to put aside a reserve upon which they could subsist until industry is again quickened into a profitable prosperity. Whether all workers have been sufficiently thrifty to lay aside part of their earnings is something that can only be answered by the individuals themselves.

The Government cannot, even with the best intentions in the world, assume the whole responsibility of finding employment for the hundreds of thousands who have been displaced as a result of the conflict ending. It can advise, stimulate and aid. It can hardly initiate or supervise, using the latter term in the sense of the owner of capital and machinery.

The capital required to organize industries is beyond the power of

the Government to obtain. It must, therefore, depend largely upon the good will of those who are best acquainted with the creating and developing of established and new industries. If we had the financial resources of the United States and its ability to secure loans, we might be able to organize industry on a huge scale or subsidize it to such an extent that work could be found for all. With a territory as large as our neighbor to the South, and a population about one-fourteenth its size, we can hardly hope to be able to accomplish the results that would be possible if our population and financial resources were greater.

In matters industrial we cannot go much further. A great deal of whatever resources the Government has at its disposal are, and will be used in connection with satisfying the wants of the returned soldiers and their dependents. They will always have first claim. Those who are entrusted with the problem of readjustment must therefore, seek to cause population to flow into the less sparsely populated parts where it will engage in such occupations that even in normal times complain of a dearth of labour.

In the engineering and mechanical industries other than shipbuilding, there is bound to be a slackness until such time as a number of steel and other mills will be established and in working order. The average workman cannot expect to become the pensioner of the State during a period of unemployment. He may claim with a certain amount of justification assistance in the shape of a grant or loan, but hardly as a gift that comes to him as a matter of right.

We are not as hide bound as some of the countries in Europe. Our workmen are more self-reliant and independent and want no doles. They seek employment at good wages and in so far as it can, it is the duty of the State to aid them obtain such employment and assist them with such machinery as it has at its disposal.

The machinery for a series of bureaux has already been organized and what is now required is a campaign carried on, having for its object the production of any and all material for which a home and export market can be found. We must create a demand for labour. Once this is done there will be no further necessity for Government

interference since matters will readjust themselves in accordance with well known laws.

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