

suggested new system of government, would find it a harder task than he did the leading of the Canadian Corps in France or than he does the heading of McGill University. Until what is suggested is achieved governments will continue, like experts, to err, and the public will continue to judge them by general results rather than by specific errors. The errors charged are not admitted, however; the facts remain to be disclosed.

The Montreal Star and its Comments.

The Montreal Star, news columns, "headlines", "features" and "colours" Currie's remarks, in familiar fashion and, editorially, seeks to ~~inflame~~ inflame public opinion. The public, it says, is "bound to be shocked and aroused by the startling charges of waste." That as to the 100,000 men "simply stuns". This "single category of blunders" cost the nation \$150,000. Currie "knew exactly and by direct contact what men were of use and what men were not." Adding to Currie's charges one of its own - that the 100,000 unfit men withdrawn from productive industry and maintained in uselessness overseas at the country's expense while even the women of Canada were forced into the munition factories &c - is in curious conflict with its text and with Currie who supplied it. Per the Star - "The 100,000 men were fit enough to pass the examination and so must have been better than the unfit men who did man the factories." (The examination was a medical examination. It was by experts. The Government "listened to" them and sent the men to Currie). Per Currie - "The expert medical advice which was available was apparently in many of these cases ignored." "Many of these men are still under government pay in our hospitals." The charge, to touch the government, should be that, without excuse, it provided too low a standard of fitness, or without excuse, did actually refuse to abide by the conclusions of the medical advisers in the selection of men. Possible the Star, noting the flaw in Currie's reasoning or deductions thought it wise to strike out on a new course. In doing so it deprives itself of the support of Currie and takes upon itself the burden of showing in what respect the government is responsible for (a) refusing to follow expert advice when it (b) by following it succeeds in sending 100,000 useless (for other than medically ascertainable reasons) men overseas. What does the Star say was wrong with the men? They had passed the medical examinations it says, and yet were useless. Its charge is different from that of Currie. How does it support the charge?

As to the Ross rifle, the Star reminds its readers that a decade before the event it provided expert evidence that the Ross rifle was no good. It conveniently "ignores" the fact that at the same time the party that, then in opposition, in 1914 & 1918 in power, said the same thing, was overruled in its contentions by the expert advice within the department of Militia and Defence. What is the text? It is that the advice of the responsible experts of the government should be followed. Well, it was, and it was wrong. Now, then, do we achieve the millenium by following the advice of the experts in the government service? They err, have erred and will err. Ross rifle data will be supplied in another place. Of course governments must, and do, follow the advice of experts, but, being fallible, they must sometimes follow the advice of the wrong experts, where experts disagree, and sometimes - often - the experts will all be wrong. The government, however, is absolved when, in reason, it takes what in its judgment is the best advice available, and, where opinions conflict, decides as best it may. The same as to the harness and Oliver equipment. Oliver was a British Officer in the Canadian service for a time. His equipment was adopted on the advice of official experts. The facts appear elsewhere.

Finally, by way of preliminary review, the charges raised, to dignify them by the name of charges, have an indirect and sinister motive behind them. The "cowardly and corrupt politicians" in control of the Conservative party in Canada have been found not sufficiently amenable to certain influences, centred in Montreal, that are adverse to government ownership of railways, and it is thought in the places whence these influences proceed that a change in the leadership of that party would produce more plastic conditions. Currie is a