

3, 4 and 5. Lord Beaverbrook's first position was that of Canadian Record Officer. His duties were, by means of daily cables, to give to the public of Canada an account of the performances of the Canadian troops. In this capacity also he wrote 'Canada in Flanders.' He was appointed Canadian Record Officer in January, 1915.

In January, 1916, the Canadian War Records Office was founded and Lord Beaverbrook was placed in charge. One of his principal tasks in this capacity was to oversee the collection, filing, copying, collation and safe keeping of the enormous quantity of official records, maps, diaries, précis and private accounts relating to the operations and activities of the Canadian troops. These will form invaluable material for the historian, and it is recognized that in this respect Canada is probably now in a better position than any other part of the Empire as a result of the work of the Canadian War Records Office.

Among other duties of the Canadian War Records Office are the preparation of a weekly communique for the Canadian and British press describing the work of the Canadian corps; the publication of the Canadian Daily Record, a news bulletin containing information from Canada and circulated among the troops and at the training camps; the taking and publication and exhibition of photographs depicting the operations of the Canadian corps, and also the taking and producing of moving pictures for the same purpose. The Canadian War Records Office has also founded a periodical publication, 'The Canadian War Pictorial, in which, are published photographs of various scenes taken by the official photographer. The office has also published 'Canada in Khaki,' a war book of a popular character, consisting of pictures, stories and poems dealing with the Canadian Army, and largely contributed to by officers and men at the front.

Within such lines have Lord Beaverbrook's duties been confined so far as his position under the Canadian Government is concerned. His task was to discover and make known primarily to the people of Canada, and incidentally to other people, the story of the doings of the Canadian soldiers. The means at his command included the press, the printed volume, photographs and moving pictures. These have all been used for the purpose indicated. It is in such a sense and in such a sense alone that the Canadian War Records Office has done propaganda work for the Canadian Govern-

ment, and in this sense of course every belligerent Government engaged in this war has conducted active propaganda.

A report of the work of the Canadian War Records Office, dated the 11th January, 1917, was made by Lord Beaverbrook (then Sir Max Aitken) to the Prime Minister, and a copy was laid on the table of the House on the 31st January, 1917. (See Sessional Paper No. 61).

#### PENSION COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA.

##### \*MR. DEVLIN:

1. Who are the Pension Commissioners for Canada?
2. What are their salaries?
3. Do they, or any of them, draw a pension or pensions from the Government?
4. If so, who, and how much?
5. If any such Pension Commissioner is in receipt of a pension, or drew a pension, how long did he serve overseas?
6. What length of time did he serve in France?

##### Sir ROBERT BORDEN:

1. Commander J. K. L. Ross, chairman; Colonel R. H. Labatt, member, and Major J. L. Todd, member.

2. \$5,000 per annum.

3. Yes. One of them.

4. Colonel R. H. Labatt draws a full disability pension.

5 and 6. Colonel R. H. Labatt enlisted in August, 1914, and proceeded overseas with the First Contingent in September, 1914. During training in England he was operated on for duodenal ulcer in February, 1915. Upon recovery he proceeded to France to command the 4th Battalion on May 13, 1915. Owing to disease diagnosed by the R.A.M.C. at Osborne House as valvular disease of the heart, he was returned from France on June 15, 1915, and recommended for six months' rest and then for light duty. He returned to Canada about the end of July, 1915. Upon arrival in Canada he went upon the staff of the 2nd Military District to lecture and subsequently on the 1st of July, 1916, was put in command of Niagara Camp, which he relinquished upon taking over his duties as a member of the Board of Pension Commissioners on September 11, 1916. He was boarded for discharge and recommended to be sent to the hospital for three months, but was subsequently allowed to pass under his own control on the understanding that he was to lay up for three months, which he hopes on the return of the other Commissioners to be able to do.