

we know very well that many other Canadians are making even greater sacrifices for the Good Cause. But we say it as showing that we act in good faith and with a loyal regard for the general good. That being true, we are entitled to be treated fairly.

So we come back to what has already been said,—that this Ontario tax ought to be paid if it is to end with the war and is not to be repeated on any other occasion or for any other purpose. But we ought to have whatever assurance can be given that that is the position.

It will not do for those now in power in Ontario to say that they have given their word that this is a special and not-to-be-repeated tax. The Civil Service existed before most of these gentlemen were born, and it will continue to exist long after they are dead and forgotten. It is probable that they cannot in any way bind their successors. But there ought to be some way by which we who pay this tax should not thereby commit those in other provinces and those who come after us in Ontario to the payment of similar imposts, whether labelled "war tax" or anything else.

This is a matter that ought to be taken up by the Civil Service Association of Ottawa in co-operation with all other organizations of civil servants in the Province of Ontario. What steps should be taken will be suggested in the course of consultation. But we venture to think that some of our own members in the Department of Justice could suggest a way by which this tax could be made unique and forever removed from the danger of being drawn into a precedent. We venture to say also, on behalf of any who may agree with us, that anything that may be necessary, in the way of enlisting the aid of eminent counsel, entering a

friendly case in court, or otherwise, ought to be done. Any expense would be in the nature of a premium of insurance, and all concerned should be willing to pay a small sum now to have future security against repeated exactions.

A SAMPLE BRICK.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, went to San Francisco recently to give the authority of his official position to the formal opening of the Canadian Building at the great Panama-Pacific Exposition. When the supply for his department was under discussion in the House of Commons he was invited by Hon. George P. Graham, then leading the Opposition, to give the House and country some account of what Canada was doing at the Big Show. With most commendable reserve, Mr. Burrell spoke briefly and confined himself almost wholly to facts. But he read the editorial and other utterances of California newspapers to the effect that Canada's building and display are the greatest feature of the Exposition. He did not fail to give credit for this excellent work to Colonel William Hutchison, the head of the Exhibitions Branch of his own department and the earnest workers of his staff.

Here is a service which is notable and spectacular. It is the work of civil servants and of nobody else. Mr. Burrell, like the sound administrator he is, decided that if Canada was to show at San Francisco she must show in a style to attract favourable attention. Therefore he placed at command of Colonel Hutchison the money necessary to do the work properly. The rest is all civil service—ideas, plans, organization, system, work—everything. Without taking from Colonel Hutchison and his people one iota of the praise due to them, surely we have the right