

embodied in permanent form, as an historical record and for the benefit of the coming generations whose pride and interest in this great national undertaking, it is well to enlist.

Only the consciousness of an ardent and patriotic task well performed could ever adequately repay the railway men of Canada for the strenuous and anxious days and nights which they spent during the war. Indeed this work continued long after hostilities ceased because some of the hardest work which the transportation companies performed was during demobilization, with the safety and comfort of half a million men, many of them invalids, entrusted to their care.

MOBILIZATION

**That fateful
Sunday.**

The first intimation to the Canadian National Railways that the system might be called upon to fulfill that military function which was initially one of the main reasons for the construction of the Intercolonial Railway wholly through Canadian territory, came on that fateful Sunday, August 2nd, 1914—the memorable day when a solemn hush pervaded the whole world, while men waited to know whether for the British Empire it should be peace or war. On that day, a message was received by the Passenger Traffic Manager