

In connection with the League of Nations it is interesting to note that forty-seven nations in all took part in the Assembly, including the six which came in during the later days of the conference, and it is to be hoped that the other great nations of the world, who have not as yet become members of the League, will do so in the very near future; because, in order that the League may be a predominant factor in maintaining the peace of the world and thereby preventing further wars, it would seem to be essential that all the great world powers should sign the covenant. Canada sent three representatives to this conference, in the persons of the Rt. Hon. Sir George E. Foster, the Rt. Hon. Mr. Doherty and the Hon. Mr. Rowell, and I am sure it must be a source of pride to Canadians to know that Canada's representatives played a most important role in the deliberations of that great assembly and were instrumental in introducing many matters of world-wide import.

In order to bind together the component parts of this great Empire, scattered as we are throughout the four quarters of the globe, it is essential that relations which will stimulate trade and improve means of communication and intercourse between the Dominions, the Colonies, and the Mother Country should be entered into whenever possible. It is therefore satisfactory to note that the Government has been able to effect a beneficial trade agreement with the British West Indies.

As one who has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of the men and women of Canada who served overseas during the late war, I wish to place myself on record as being prepared at all times to support all reasonable measures which will be of benefit to the disabled man, especially those which will give preference to his claim for employment. And, in keeping with the finances and resources of this country, I believe that the Government cannot be too generous in its treatment of the widows and the dependents of those brave men who laid down their lives for their country, and also the disabled men who, owing to service, have become impaired physically.

In this connection, I believe the Government has demonstrated, by the legislation which it has already placed on the statute book and that which is foreshadowed in the Speech from the Throne, that it is ever mindful of the welfare of the returned men and the widows and dependents

of the fallen, notwithstanding statements to the contrary made by agitators of the Flynn type. Let me say here that I am convinced that a very large majority of the returned men are perfectly satisfied with the treatment which the Government of this country has accorded to them. They are only too anxious, I believe, to become re-established in civil life as soon as possible.

In comparison with the policy of other countries which were engaged in the war, Canada's soldiers' civil re-establishment policy is one of which she might justly feel proud. Within one year of the commencement of hostilities a commission was formed, charged with the provision of hospital care and treatment of men who were expected to return invalided from overseas, and the honourable leader of this House (Hon. Sir James Lougheed) was appointed Minister in charge. From this small beginning has grown the great organization known as the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, the Board of Pension Commissioners, and the Soldier Settlement Board, the two latter handling distinct branches of the work of compensation and rehabilitation.

In the first place, hospitals have been provided on a scale not at first contemplated. They have been equipped with the latest improvements in the way of therapeutic apparatus and conveniences, and they have become an example for other countries to follow. Among the innovations which have been tested and the value of which have been proved may be mentioned the appointment of ward aides, specially trained in classes organized by the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment in order that they might assist men in the hospitals to utilize their idle time in the performance of some useful work. Immediately this plan was introduced the tone of the hospitals showed a marked improvement. This was particularly the case in the sanatoria for tuberculosis. Another new feature in the hospital personnel has been the introduction of dietitians. This has resulted, first, in an improvement in the food supply, and, secondly, in a lessening of the cost.

The next activity to which I desire to call attention is that of vocational training. After the close of every previous war men have been allowed to shift for themselves and no attempt has been made, except on an insignificant scale, to solve the war wastage among those suffering severe disabilities and handicaps. Early in the war