

more by taxation than in the past, but, at the same time, I would not like to see the voluntary system abandoned.

MR. BIRGE, (Hamilton):—

It is my own feeling that we should stick pretty closely to our methods of the past—for the rural districts, municipal taxation and for the urban districts, towns and cities, stick to the voluntary system, with what we can get out of the Councils.

REV. MR. MOORE, (St. Johns, P.Q.):—

I do feel however that the crowning glory of this undertaking which we represent in this Conference was stated when the Honorary Secretary said a few moments ago that 85% of the money raised during the first year of operations came from voluntary contributions. I feel very strongly that when the history of these great days comes to be written, that one of the brightest statements that we shall be able to make will be concerning that great achievement—the voluntary support towards this great cause. I feel jealous of that feature of our work and I hope that the voluntary element will not be for one moment minimized throughout the whole course of the War.

MR. J. T. JAMES, (Bridgeburg):—

I certainly believe we should have our voluntary contributions. That should come first and what is lacking should be made up by taxation or some other way.

MR. S. J. WILLIAMS, (Berlin):—

In regard to the giving or collecting I am strongly of the opinion that you must not insult the good people of this Dominion by taking away the voluntary contribution. I would consider that it would hurt me very much and I know I speak for hundreds of others if that privilege should be taken away from us.

I am very much in favor of excusing the Dominion Government from contributing to this Fund. They are deciding about the returned soldier and the pension list which I hope they will make adequate to take care of the man and his family. I am very much in favor of distributing it over the provinces, the municipalities, the counties and the townships, and working it for all it is worth.

MR. ELLIOT, (Montreal):—

In Montreal a large part of the contributions have come from the large corporations which have been hard hit by the recent legislation at Ottawa, and it is the opinion of some of the men most responsible for the collection of the money in Montreal that we