

citizen. Since those who suffer do so on behalf of the nation, it is the duty of all those who compose the nation to suffer with them. In Canada, it is the nation, the Dominion as a whole, and not provincial or civic governments, nor organizations supported by private citizens, which must bear the whole responsibility for the proper return of Canada's ex-soldiers and ex-sailors to civilian life.

That the Dominion Government—the Canadian Nation—is so responsible, cannot be too clearly understood. While the bodies entrusted with realizing the nation's responsibility conceivably may be permitted to accept private benevolence when it is offered, the responsibility remains a national one. Any system of caring for returning men which, in any part, directly depends upon private benevolence is, upon the face of it, an improper system. It delegates a public function to a private body. To vest a private body with any share of that responsibility would constitute an evasion of the nation's obligation to make good disabilities incurred by its citizens in warfare. To do so would produce a situation intolerable alike to those who received benefits and to those, Canadians also, who wished to pay their debts to their fellows.

It is only under responsible government, where the State is the people and exists to serve the people, that the recognition of a warring nation's responsibility to its citizens approaches such completeness as that outlined. It is only by such governments that consistent attempts are made to distribute equally among the individuals composing the nation, detriments which by the chances of war have fallen unequally upon them. The obligation of a State to provide for the equalization of all losses inflicted on its citizens, whether combatant or not, by a national enemy is receiving more general recognition. All of the warring nations have widened the scope of the laws by which they provide compensation for deaths and for bodily or mental incapacitation resulting from service in army or navy. In addition, legislation has been introduced, for example by Great Britain and by France, with the object, under circumstances as yet comparatively