

Mr. OLIVER: In reply to the interjection made by my hon. friend, may I say that a Government which undertakes to settle disputes in coal mines by sending out a partisan supporter of the Government as representative of some of the men concerned is not taking proper means to settle those strikes.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I must ask the hon. member—

Mr. EDWARDS: I did not say "riots," I said "royalties."

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I must ask the hon. member to adhere more closely to the subject under discussion. His last remarks had no bearing upon the question before the House.

Mr. OLIVER: Certainly not; neither did the interruption.

Mr. SPEAKER: There was no possible opportunity of my preventing the interruption.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Warn the hon. gentleman against a repetition of it.

Mr. OLIVER: Let us understand what we are doing for our soldiers and for their dependents. We have been told how much we owe the soldiers. If we do owe the soldiers much, we do owe their dependents support at the cost of this country.

An hon. MEMBER: You owe the soldiers support, too.

Mr. SPEAKER: If an hon. gentleman wishes to address the House, he must do the House the courtesy of rising in his place.

An hon. MEMBER: They do not know what courtesy means.

Mr. OLIVER: What are we doing for the dependents of our soldiers? Are we providing for them a decent support at the cost of this country?

Mr. J. A. M. ARMSTRONG: How about God Save the King?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

An hon. MEMBER: Put him out.

Mr. OLIVER: I have here an announcement contained in the Bulletin of the Patriotic Fund of the date of February, 1916. It is headed, "A Message to the Canadian Soldier's Wife," and it says, in part:

When the war broke out and our brave men came forward to enlist it was felt that there might be some, among those left behind, who would not be sufficiently provided for by the government grants. Men who could not en-

[The Speaker.]

list, but who desired to help, felt called upon to step into the breach, and are endeavouring to make good to the soldier's wife the difference between what the Government gives her, and the amount needed to enable her to live in decency and comfort.

That Sir is an indictment against the Government and the people of Canada by the Patriotic Fund in its official organ. For my part, I do not wish to be responsible for the condition that enables that indictment to be made, and at this time and on this occasion when, as my hon. friend from Westmorland (Mr. Copp) has said, we are going to put our hand upon the shoulders of our young men and compel them to serve us at the front, surely the same theory of conscription should apply to the money of the country sufficiently to provide for the dependents of those men so that they shall not have to rely upon the passing of the hat, the appeals to benevolence, to charity, to meet the needs of those whom they have left behind. Is that the stimulus to patriotism that we, the people of Canada, offer to our soldiers? Is it any wonder that voluntary enlistment in this country has decreased when we offer to our soldiers the proposal that we shall collect money as charity and dispense it as charity—

An hon. MEMBER: No such a thing.

Mr. OLIVER—to make up the difference between what the Government gives to the soldier's wife and the amount needed to enable her to live in decency and comfort. Do we or do we not owe to the soldier and to his wife the amount that will enable her to live in decency and comfort as a return in some measure for the service that the soldier renders to us? This document goes on to say:

From time to time the management of the Patriotic Fund is urged to reduce the scale of payment. This we have hitherto been unwilling to do. Some revision has, it is true, been recently recommended whereby certain classes of families are dropped from the Fund.

What does that mean? It means that the families of the men who have enlisted in good faith to serve this country and who have left their families behind them, expecting that those families would receive certain support, have been dropped from the fund. The faith that was made with that soldier when he went to the front has been broken, and yet we wonder that other men do not come forward and enlist on the same terms. When life and honour are at stake, then there surely must be no breach of faith between the country and