

enclosing you a verbatim report of that meeting, in which you will be able to read the statement made by Sir Edward Henry, which applies equally to Canadian soldiers. We have received no contradiction to those statements, and they are generally admitted to be nearer the truth than the exaggerated ones formerly made.

We are living in abnormal times, and considering the millions of men who have been called from far-off lands and from distant parts of the United Kingdom to become fighting soldiers, I think we can congratulate ourselves upon the comparatively—I would emphasize comparatively—small number of moral and social failures among them. The Canadian officials of every rank are doing their utmost for the welfare of their men, and with results that, I think, are most encouraging. Take the following as an illustration. Last week, at one of the Canadian clubs, the captain was paying out £4,000 to the men, many of whom had only just arrived. Some were receiving large sums of money, and the captain urged them to leave the greater part in the care of the officials, with the result that £3,000 was returned by the men. Notwithstanding all the persuasion that was exercised there were some, however, who insisted on taking the whole of their money with them. They went out, got drunk, were robbed, and brought back to this club penniless. Such men always act in that way, and bring discredit on their fellow countrymen. It would not be fair to charge the Canadian soldiers with drunkenness, although one has, alas! to admit that there are drunkards among them.

This is what we have done, and if you will tell me what more we can do, either as philanthropists or as a Government, on behalf of the Canadian soldiers in London, I will see that