

This is like no preceding war. It is a war of nations, not of armies. As a result, old methods of providing for ex-soldiers have been found inadequate and new legislation to meet new conditions is being devised and enforced. France and England, for example, are re-modelling their laws; Canada, which had practically no laws for dealing with ex-soldiers when war commenced, will find it necessary to devise a whole procedure for that purpose. The laws by which France is providing for the return to civilian life of those who have served in her "Armies of the land and sea" are characteristically detailed in their provisions. They are governed in their design by principles similar to those which define the obligation of Canada towards her citizen soldiers and sailors. There is great similarity between these principles and those underlying much of the recent legislation providing compensation for workmen injured at their employment. There is sound reason in that similarity. Modern workmen's compensation laws, such as those of the Province of Ontario, look upon the charge for insuring workmen against unavoidable accident as an item in the cost of producing articles manufactured:—about 86% of the industrial accidents occurring in Germany in 1887 were unavoidable. It follows that the cost of insurance should be added to the price of the article manufactured, and that it should be borne by the consumer; the insurance is a part of the cost of the commodity which he purchases.

Canadians are, in a sense, partners in business. They are engaged in the business of maintaining the State of which each of them is a part. Under the terms of their agreement—the Militia Act—every Canadian can be called upon to defend the Dominion. War is a social risk. Canada engaged in the business of Statehood becomes involved in that risk. Through the involvement many Canadians must suffer. It is evidently but right, to continue the metaphor, that losses resulting from the nation's warfare should be equally distributed among the partners. It follows that no Canadian should suffer through the war more than does his fellow-