

ada has the largest foreign trade of any country in the world. In the calendar year 1920 imports amounted to \$1,336,921,000, and exports to \$1,302,805,000, one closely balancing the other and giving a per capita foreign commerce of \$310, while that of the United States in the same period was not more than \$135 per head.

When Canada returns, as she is fast doing, to normal conditions the unemployment question should be more easily settled amid the prosperous conditions that shall then prevail. Those working in the best interests of Canada desire that the highest possible remuneration shall be paid to labour for an honest day's toil, and it would be unwise and unfair that any class should benefit at the expense of another.

Honourable gentlemen, there is but one other topic in the Speech from the Throne to which I shall allude. It is the League of Nations. Despite serious obstacles, not the least of which has been the failure of President Wilson to carry his country into the cause, and notwithstanding a grave situation in Europe, the League of Nations does exist and does function. The Supreme Council labours incessantly to bring order out of chaos, and slow though it be it seems to be making progress. Russia bids fair soon to resume commercial relations with the outside world, and if a basis of reparation payments can be finally arranged with Germany, the clouds that loom over Europe may be lifted. The Assembly of the League has met and legislated. A permanent Court of International Justice has been agreed upon, and we can take pride from the prominent part taken by Canadians, being Canada's representatives in the deliberations. The League of Nations is a noble conception which deserves to succeed, and should it fail our Christian principles and vaunted civilization will be as dust and ashes.

Honourable gentlemen, I beg to move the adoption of the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech from the Throne.

Hon. GERALD V. WHITE: Honourable gentlemen, I rise with a certain amount of diffidence to second the resolution so eloquently presented by my honourable colleague from Stadacona, because I feel my inability to discharge in a fitting manner the duty which the leader of the Government has placed upon my shoulders. However, I appreciate the great honour which has been conferred upon me, and I take it as a recognition by the Government of the part played by my district in the political and industrial life of the country, and also

Hon. LORNE C. WEBSTER.

as a tribute to the magnificent war record achieved by the people of that district.

In this connection it might not be out of place for me to emphasize the fact that the contribution of the district of Pembroke to the military and naval forces of the Empire consisted of at least 1,200 men and women, of whom more than 125 paid the supreme sacrifice. We also raised a large amount of money. According to a statement submitted to me by the Department of Finance, the district of Pembroke contributed for war purposes the enormous sum of \$2,700,900. This amount was made up of subscriptions of \$2,284,900 to the three Victory Loans, \$256,000 to the two War Loans, and \$160,000 for patriotic purposes, including the Patriotic Fund, the British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, Belgian Relief, and Army Huts.

In passing, I should also like to pay a tribute to the splendid war work accomplished by the women of my district. Not content with giving their husbands, sons, and daughters to assist the Empire; they worked unceasingly from the outbreak of the war until peace was declared in an effort to supply the necessary comforts for our wounded and sick in hospitals and for the men in the trenches. Honourable gentlemen, we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the women of Canada for the splendid services which they rendered during the period of the war.

My honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Webster) has alluded in a fitting manner to the change which has taken place in the leadership of the Government of this country. Sir Robert Borden, an outstanding figure in the public life of the Empire, retired in July of last year from the premiership of Canada, after occupying this position during the most momentous period in the history of this country. Canadians of all shades of politics, recognizing the splendid service rendered by Sir Robert Borden to Canada and the Empire, will, I am sure, join with me in the hope that he may long be spared to us.

Canada is fortunate in having so worthy a successor in the person of the Right Honourable Arthur Meighen to Sir Robert Borden. Young, courageous, and brilliant, a firm believer in the future of his country, he is a man in whose hands Canadians of all classes and creeds can safely place the administration of the affairs of the country.

We have, in common with all other nations of the world, been passing through