

INTRODUCTORY

WITH the great war at an end Canada finds herself faced by problems of reconstruction that require the same kind of skill in their solution as did those which confronted her in August, 1914. It is true that in the early days of the world-conflict our Dominion was called upon, without warning, to meet unprecedented demands. It was no small matter for a peaceful nation such as ours to undertake suddenly the responsibility of raising and equipping a large army, and of making industrial and economic adjustments to meet the needs of the case. What Canada has accomplished during the four years of war is now familiar to the world, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that our work was well done, and that Canada had the glory of contributing in an eminent degree to the success of the Allies. While we may be, and are, justly proud of our achievements in the war, we must not forget that the difficulties we have yet to meet and overcome are in many ways as great as those which confronted us at the beginning.

A casual survey of our present situation reveals intricate problems on every hand. In the realm of industry, for instance, munition plants and manufacturing concerns engaged in the production of war equipment must now produce articles needed by a nation at peace. If proper and adequate readjustment is not made, unemployment on a large scale confronts us, and the problem will be made more intensive by the return of our soldiers from overseas. Closely related to the industrial problem is that of finance. During the war we were able to borrow large sums from our own Canadian people, from England, and from the United States. We must now begin to pay back our debts, and this obligation, together with needed expenditures for