

dealt with the developments overseas, as well as at home, under broad powers granted by Parliament, but without much dependence on the cumbrous machinery of discussion in the Senate and House of Commons. Nevertheless, Parliament kept an alert and critical watch over the activities of the government concerning the war effort and Canadian operations in the theatre of war.

(e) When in 1917 the controversial and decisive question of the Military Service Act and conscription came up, the Government, under public and parliamentary pressure, had to save itself by a reconstruction into a Coalition or Union Government. While this was mainly a phase of domestic politics, it had its origin in a foreign war in which Canada was deeply committed; and Parliament had the overseas crisis as much in mind as the domestic problem.

(f) After the First War was over, Parliament took relatively little direct interest in the Peace Settlements, which were mainly European, or in the ensuing arrangements, both inside and outside the League of Nations, for European "security". These matters were apparently remote from direct effect on Canada, and were of a diplomatic nature beyond the understanding of