

emphasis on the changed conditions of the times, he said in Canadian home-like phrase: "It is a real chore that we have before us."

But if the Minister of Finance spoke plainly and pointedly of the weight of Canada's responsibility, he did not fail to emphasize also the opportunities for development and service which lie before her at the Gateway of the Orient.

At the outset, especially, the delivery of Senator Robertson, the Minister of Labour, was scarcely strong enough for the size of the hall, but he struck something more than a happy patriotic note and sympathetic chord as he spoke of the "dark shadows that were hanging over many of the nations, and how we in Canada had great reason to feel thankful to a kind Providence," and proceeded to quote, with application to Canada, lines used by Montgomery in regard to his return to England after visiting other countries.

A remark by the way revealed the fact that Senator Robertson is among those who in the Great War gave a son to the Empire and the reflection was suggested of how many homes had been darkened by the seemingly untimely taking away of brothers or sons. In the chairman, Mr. Blake-Wilson, Mr. Crowe, M.P., and many others Senator Robertson's personal reference must have stirred a poignant memory, for their homes, like so many out west as elsewhere in the Empire, gave a life or lives in the Great Cause.

#### Ample Doses of "Scotch."

Bright and breezy in his manner, with a wholesome suggestion of the great out-of-doors in his fresh and healthy personality, Dr. Tolmie, Minister of Agriculture and a B. C. representative in the Dominion Cabinet, addressed the meeting. A reference by Mr. Malkin to a "full board" had created some amusement earlier in the evening, and Dr. Tolmie remarked that there was no reason why they should not be "full," as they had had "ample doses of Scotch."

#### Sir Harry Lauder's "Scotch."

Perhaps it was by way of something new to the Board, that it was arranged that the musical interludes included the rendering of a notable selection of Sir Harry Lauder's songs. The one written at the end of the war was welcomed with enthusiasm, as indeed were they all. But Scotsmen, who, like Irishmen, have so much to answer for—especially in the manufacture of stories about their race for the entertainment of the English-speaking peoples—would hardly have been so "select" in the selection.

Lest that remark is interpreted by anyone as a qualification of the attractions of Sir Harry Lauder's songs, we may here take credit on behalf of British Columbia for the fact that months before Sir Harry was knighted, the suggestion that he should be so honoured was made in this Magazine, and, for all we know to the contrary, may have led to the idea being discussed in the present centre of Empire. The suggestion was made in connection with a review of the Scottish entertainer's book "A Minstrel in France," which, let it be repeated, revealed the heroic in exercise in "Harry's" work for the Boys after he had, through the War, been separated by death from his only boy.

#### The "Predestination" of Vancouver

The phrase "the present centre of Empire" is also not new. For long before any recent sojourner dropped the suggestion by the way in Vancouver, this Magazine was bold enough to suggest that this portion of the Pacific may one day rival, if not excel, in central authority or importance, New York or even Old London itself.

#### Canada's Outstanding Need.

In his racy and attractive speech, the Minister of Agriculture found time not only to commend the Vancouver Exhibition and all such exhibitions, for their valuable work, but to give much enlightening information concerning mixed farming, which he advised should be stimulated in this country in

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

every possible way. Then, with such sentences as the following, he drove home a big truth: "Our resources are immense; what we want is good, sound common sense government; government carried on for the great mass of the people and not for the satisfaction of the individual. If we can get such government—and I think we have a government of that kind at the present time—a government that is trying to do the right thing—the prosperity of this country is assured."

"The great Canadian spirit" Dr. Tolmie characterized as the greatest asset we have in this country.

Attorney-General Farris and Mayor Gale, in respectively moving and seconding a vote of thanks, made short speeches befitting the occasion. Mr. Farris embraced the opportunity to refer to the University of British Columbia and also to the work of development of good roads in the province.

Mayor Gale, with characteristic fluency and impressiveness, told of his experiences with the Minister of Finance at Ottawa. It goes without saying, of course, that if the Mayor of Vancouver needed confidence in address, the position of Vancouver City and the claims of B. C. might well supply it.

#### Time to Popularize "O Canada."

The altogether well-planned programme was closed at a really reasonable hour by the chairman calling for "O Canada." While some seemed uncertain as to which verse was intended, most of the audience sang the verse common at the Canadian Club luncheons, which, it is surely time, should by itself or with another verse become the regularly recognized National selection from that many versed National song.

#### "O Canada."

O Canada, our heritage, our love,  
Thy worth we praise all other lands above.  
From sea to sea, throughout thy length, from pole to border-land,  
At Britain's side, whate'er betide, unflinchingly we'll stand.  
With heart we sing, "God Save the King,"  
"Guide Thou the Empire wide," do we implore,  
"And prosper Canada from shore to shore."

JUST A WORD

## ERE YOU PASS

To how many of your friends, near and far, should you send the B. C. M.? (See cover, page 2).

## O You Overwhelmedly Busy Man!

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