

in a hundred different ways, some of them interfering with personal liberty and inclination; a difficult railway situation, the responsibility for which Union Government, at least, had no part, had to be solved, and in solving it important interests were considerably annoyed.

The Government had to perform all these more or less unpleasant tasks under a ceaseless fire of criticism, more or less unreasonable, and in many cases based upon ignorance of the facts. They had no time to hit back at their critics, no time to play the political game; they were too busy carrying on and doing national duty as they saw it. Amid all the welter of criticism it is specially noteworthy that rarely if ever did the critics get down to particulars. The real reason for this is that in most cases the critics do not know what they are talking about; they do not know the record of the Government, and perhaps care less. It pleases them to slam and bang, to bark and bluster, very often without rhyme or reason. It is equally noteworthy that in Parliament the opponents of the Government have cut a sorry figure, and have not been able to make any headway whatever. In every instance where they have challenged the Government they have been put to rout by a simple disclosure of the facts.

The following brief summary of the record of the Government is submitted for the thoughtful consideration of reasonable men and women:

(1) The war was vigorously prosecuted. Everything humanly possible was done, and well done, by the Government to keep our fighting forces up to strength, to provide our soldiers with everything they needed for their