

The control of the packing industry by the Government has also been foreshadowed in a speech made by the Hon. T. A. Crerar.

RETURNED SOLDIERS

Of transcendent importance is the problem of caring for our returned soldiers and seeing that they are properly restored to the arts of peace. For this great task alone, a Union, no-party Government is absolutely necessary, unless we wish to invite chaos, confusion, jealousy, animosities, favoritism and intolerable unnecessary expense, which would surely be the result of the performance of the duty under party Government. Judging by the past history of party Government in Canada it seems humanly impossible for any such Government to escape the charge of favoring its friends. In times of peace we, perhaps unwisely, tolerated that, but it would be folly and ingratitude to allow the party system and methods to apply in the treatment of our returned heroes.

The men who have fought our battles so gloriously at the Front are richly deserving of the best possible and most generous and considerate treatment that can be accorded to them, and that treatment must be on a basis of absolute equality and entirely apart from political influence.

The men themselves who know what it is to fight and suffer in common would be the first to champion equality of treatment and denounce favoritism.

The policy so far announced by the Government in this regard, is to provide effective arrangements for demobilization, for the care and vocational training of returned soldiers, for assistance in enabling them to settle upon the land and for adequate pensions for those who have been disabled and to the dependents of those who have fallen.

In his recent Election Manifesto Sir Robert Borden, dealing with this matter, stated:—

"The men by whose sacrifice and endurance the free institutions of Canada will be preserved must be re-educated where necessary and re-established on the land or in such other pursuits or vocations as they may desire to follow. The injured and broken will be protected; the widow and the orphan will be helped and cherished. Duty and decency demand that those who are saving democracy shall not find democracy a house of privilege, or a school of poverty and hardship. The franchise will be extended to women, not chiefly in recognition of devoted and capable service in the war, but as a measure of justice too long delayed. If men die women suffer, if they are wounded women heal, if they are maimed women labor. And since there can be no separation in suffering and sacrifice, there should be none in citizenship."