

fallen on the field of honour on June 2, 1916. On behalf of all my constituents, I have to-day the honour of publicly rendering to his memory the homage of our admiration, and his name will ever remain for us a symbol of patriotism and devotion to duty.

May I be permitted to add, on behalf of all the sailors, soldiers and airmen hailing from the picturesque valleys and mountains of Brome and the fertile plains of Missisquoi, that we shall have no rest in the present conflict, until the enemy has been vanquished again and we hope, rendered powerless to start another war.

The people I represent do not differ from the population of any other agricultural constituency; they are peaceful, industrious, frugal, loyal, slow to enthusiasm and anger; however, once they realize that they have to deal with a cruel and ruthless enemy, bent on systematically destroying all the free institutions which they respect and consider as being essential to life and happiness, this same people suddenly become warlike and thirst for vengeance and, for them, peace would henceforth be but an empty word, unless it were brought about by a victory as complete, as total, as the war itself.

Personally, I aspire to one thing only, the privilege and honour of being worthy of such electors and of such a predecessor as Colonel Baker.

Mr. Speaker, on many occasions since the outbreak of war I have had the privilege of meeting my electors, publicly and privately, in their homes or on my own farm, in workshops, in army camps, in places of amusement, at exhibitions and on the street. I have always made it a point to discuss with them the serious problems which confront us at this time and I am sure that I understand quite well their reactions.

I have had lengthy conversations with people who own prosperous farms and large herds of cattle, whose sons are in the army and who often must, together with their wives, their younger sons and their daughters, and with what little farm help is available, toil from five o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock at night in order to maintain their normal production or reach the output which is so earnestly requested of them by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner). Transportation facilities are very much curtailed, spare machinery parts are almost impossible to obtain, feed is expensive and scarce, amusements are non-existent, expenses are high while income is low, but nevertheless

those farmers and their families have told me that they considered themselves fortunate to be able to make at least some contribution to victory.

I have talked with railroad men, who are numerous in my constituency, men who, night and day, on Sundays or week days, in fair or foul weather, and under conditions which are sometimes almost intolerable, are endeavouring to cope as efficiently as possible with the tremendous task of transporting the army, the civilian population, the war material and the ordinary trade goods, and they have assured me that, in their opinion, no sacrifice will be too great for the triumph of our cause.

On various occasions I have endeavoured to ascertain the opinion of the workers in factories and workshops, of merchants, civil servants, clergymen, barristers and physicians, and from all of them I have had the same reply: "We will do whatever is necessary to win this war—we will do our utmost."

A deep significance underlies those outspoken and gratifying utterances, for our people are not unlike others, and if they accept all the sacrifices requested of them, it is because they are firmly convinced that such sacrifices are absolutely necessary. Mr. Speaker, I wish to convey to this house the inner thoughts of my constituents, so that my fellow members may compare them with the feelings of their own electors, for provided a spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of the dire needs of war is shown from the Yukon to Nova Scotia, among French- and English-speaking Canadians and in the various classes of people, we shall then be able to assert unhesitatingly that such a population is united and shall never be vanquished.

The nefarious work of the axis powers has been described as follows by one of our church leaders, His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve:

An attempt at world-wide destruction, morals of barbarous ferocity, a philosophy substituting greed for judgment, a despotic enslavement of all liberty by fire and sword, an atheistic cult glorifying brutal force and selfishness.

The Canadian people, Mr. Speaker, realize more and more how this description carries no exaggeration with it and has now come to appreciate the fact that the future existence of our free institutions both Christian and democratic are at stake, perhaps for centuries to come. Surely, in such great peril, any thought of personal ambition and professional gain does seem futile and despicable. One thing now matters: national welfare—and I mean national as opposed to sectional interests.