

temple where all Canadian people will come to worship. The life of a nation does not consist in the good things it possesses but in its spirit, its dominating soul.

If that splendid purpose of a strong nation, a United Canada, which our forefathers had departed from the heart of the leaders of Canada, from the heart of the men of our Canadian Bar, then their faith was in vain and their vision is vanishing. Let us hope it has not, and so let the work they began be continued. The present actors in it will not have the same spectacular part; their work nevertheless is just as necessary and their reward will be just as great. The difficulties appear sometimes to be insuperable; difficulties are made to be overcome, and in that very overcoming Canadians will develop and Canada as a consequence be greater.

The story of the nations which were and are not; which have failed, or which are still struggling for continuance, demonstrates the difficulties of constructing into oneness, of bringing into ready obedience to a central government, people sprung from different races, with different historic past, different ideals, and different languages, especially when those people are separated from each other by strong geographic and ethnic barriers.

Perhaps the best illustration on a large scale was the futility of the effort of the Austrian Congress of 1814 to apportion Europe among the several governments without much regard to nationality and geography. In forty years its uselessness was shown.

The difficulties are greatly increased where the government is democratic and has to depend for its existence upon popular vote; still more increased where, as the years go on, there are large accessions to the population of people from other countries, whose affiliations are very naturally with the countries whence they came. They will also be greatly increased by reason of the problems which will arise out of the war, and which we with courage and with patience must face and solve. While the part Canada is playing in the present war as a factor in the British Empire will have some effect in developing conscious nationality among many people, it has also disclosed weaknesses to be regretted. As true-hearted Canadians we should therefore