

ther, can boast of. We are proud and happy to realize that now the bigger brother has come to join us in the old home, and stand with the old Motherland in the defense of those great institutions which are the common heritage of your land and of our own. In the defense of those liberties which were handed down to us by our common Motherland, we are proud to find ourselves standing side by side with you, and we are happy that you should be standing side by side with the Old Land and with ourselves in this great struggle, because your so doing brings to us the final assurance of that ultimate triumph concerning which, though we never doubted that it would come, we sometimes have had occasion to feel perhaps a trifle more than anxiety.

We welcome you to-day as the representative of your great nation in this day when the clouds seem to lower their very darkest, and when we realize, as perhaps we have never realized before, how absolutely it is going to take the supreme effort of your land, of our land, and of all the allied nations who are banded together in defence of the flag of democracy to attain and bring about that victory for which we are striving. I shall not endeavour by any words of mine to weaken the effect of the eloquent terms in which you have described the purpose for which we are all united for this great struggle, and what it is that we are looking forward to as the consequence of our triumph. Let me say on behalf of this House of Commons how much we appreciate the privilege that has come to us today. You have said to us, Mr. Gompers, that you came here looking for inspiration. Let me say to you that your words have brought to us a new inspiration, that shall revive in us the determination which you have assured us your people realize animated the people of this land, a determination which they have absolute confidence is shared by the people of your country. When you go back to that land from which you have come, I trust that you will carry with you pleasant memories of your visit here and assurances of the warmth of the welcome of the people of Canada. I trust, furthermore, that you will go back with a message from our people to yours that when Canada determined to stand in this struggle with you and with the other Allies they were not mistaken. In this day, when, as I have already said, the clouds seem to lower their darkest, the spirit and determination of the people of Canada is as strong as it was at

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the outset to hold firmly their place in the phalanxes that are struggling in this great fight until there shall have been achieved that victory which you foreshadow, that victory that will see democracy safely enthroned in a world in which justice shall prevail among nations for the great as well as for the small, when every individual shall enjoy as his undisputed right an ordered liberty, and when right shall sit in safety unawed by any dominating overpowering might that would seek to disturb that justice which it shall be the proud privilege of all the nations that have joined in its vindication to maintain and preserve anew and rejuvenated.

Mr. SAMUEL GOMPERS: Mr. Speaker, Gentlemen of the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, I would be less than human did I not feel deeply touched by the expressions of the Speaker with reference to myself and to the efforts which I have endeavoured to put forth. May I ask that you permit me to put my own interpretation upon all that has been said, and to interpret it rather as a tribute to the movement of the men and women of the United States and the cause which we represent, and which it is a great privilege to be permitted to serve.

With me and my associates, that enterprise in which we are now all engaged, and which we have been accustomed to call war, is no longer fully expressed by the term war, but takes on a larger view, a larger cause, a greater meaning; it is the most wonderful crusade ever entered upon by men in the whole history of the world. No nobler cause, no holier undertaking, has ever commanded the intelligent and the self-sacrificing natures of men. You men of Canada, there was no compulsion that impelled you into this war; there was no compulsion for our Australasian brothers to enter into the war; there was no need for the men of South Africa to enter into the war; there was no compulsion that drove India into the war. The Mother Country of democracy, her life and her honour, were at stake. Her plighted faith had been given. Belgium outraged and overrun, France invaded; England responded, and her colonies and dominions, her men and her women, who had learned what was meant by English democracy and English idealism, responded with an alacrity and a purpose and a meaning that sent a thrill to the hearts and consciences of liberty-loving men the world over.