

that direction that is necessary and in that we shall be supported I am sure by the Canadian people—but to abolish war we must extend democratic and parliamentary government. And we ought to make it clear in some way that we expect that our neighbours to the south will help us in attaining this end. They did intervene in Cuba, and with good results. They have helped to clean up things in other portions of the American continent, their action being based largely upon the assertion of democratic government and the rights of the people. And the voice of America is yet to be heard, and will be heard at its loudest and strongest in that direction. And we can appeal also to Germans in the United States, and especially to Germans in our own country, to find a way to convey to the German people the glad tidings of democracy and parliamentary government. And I believe that when the German people come to see the mistake of the political system under which they have lived and of following the Kaiser and his irresponsible associates, they will look for the cure in the establishment of complete parliamentary government. I should like to see this phase of the matter discussed in this House with a view to making some impression on the German people in the direction I have indicated.

Now, having made that statement and that appeal with a view to finding a ground upon which the people of America can stand together in upholding free institutions, I only wish to say further that I believe that this House ought to support the Government to the fullest extent in carrying on this war, even to the spending of our last dollar in upholding the cause which we all have at heart. For that cause is the cause of freedom, of Christianity, of humanity, of human uplift. We must be ready to lose everything rather than to lose our self-respect, our belief in our own ideals. And I believe the people of Canada will sustain the Government in everything they shall do in that direction. But, as has been said, we must have careful administration. We do not care what the cost is, but we want absolute efficiency. The country will back up the Government in seeking efficiency, and Canada will give her last dollar and her last man to uphold the cause of parliamentary government and democratic institutions.

[Mr. W. F. Maclean.]

Mr. E. M. MACDONALD (Pictou): Mr. Speaker, I do not rise to continue the debate at length but rather to take advantage of the opportunity afforded under the rules of the House to mention one or two matters that it seems advisable to discuss at this time. I am sure every member of this House has felt more deeply within the last six or seven months the responsibility resting upon him as a representative of the people of this country. That sense of responsibility is deepened by our coming together in this Parliament at this juncture in our history. And I am sure that the addresses of the right hon. gentlemen who lead the two great parties in this House have been of such a character as to appeal to us with especial force at this time.

I desire to thank the right hon. gentleman who leads this House for the kindly reference he has made to the occupant of the vacant seat next to my own, one of my closest friends in the House, the hon. member for Beauce (Mr. Beland). And I am glad to know that while that hon. member has been in communication with some of us, the Prime Minister had him in mind and has been taking steps to relieve him in the position in which he has been placed in Belgium. We have to-day members of this House who are at the front, but there is only one member of the Canadian Parliament who up to this time has been wounded in the cause of liberty. It will be recalled that Dr. Beland quite voluntarily entered upon the service, which came to him in connection with his profession, of treating the wounded in the hospitals in Antwerp. In the course of that occupation he was wounded, but fortunately, not seriously. And while we sit here to-night, calmly and peacefully deliberating on what we should do to play our part in this Empire war, our friend and comrade is in the stricken city of Antwerp, perchance a prisoner of the Germans and in any case in such a position that those of us who have been his friends—and indeed all the members of the House are his friends—realize very seriously indeed, if they have never realized before, how closely this war has come home to us.

In that connection, I am glad that the consensus of opinion in this House to what has been expressed by the right hon. gentlemen who have spoken on either side—that whatever the amount may be that is sought by the Government in order to carry out our re-