

cooperation between races that it has been my privilege to witness. It was during the last great war, on the Lens front, in 1917. The enemy had just started a wild night attack and a very heavy bombardment of our trenches was in progress. The 25th Nova Scotia battalion was in the firing line and the 22nd was supporting them. Suddenly a messenger from the front line brought us the news that the 25th battalion, weakened by the fierce battles of the two previous days, was assailed by forces greatly outnumbering them and were in great need of support. The older members of the 22nd recalled to their younger companions the services rendered them by the 25th battalion at Courcellette in similar circumstances. "Let us go," they said, "this is our opportunity of paying the debt we owe the 25th battalion." In a few moments, the commanding officer had more volunteers than he needed. The fighting was fierce, and a great many lost their lives in the fray. However, the enemy was beaten back with heavy casualties. Later, when relief came, nothing

was more touching, I can assure you, than the sight of these soldiers of the 22nd and 25th battalions marching arm in arm, although they could not understand their respective languages, but who, from that time, became, for life, the best friends in the world.

In these tragic days, we should take inspiration from such an example and such a lesson. This war may perhaps not last as long as we imagine and Canadians of every origin should join and march on hand in hand. I trust that each and every one of us will be able to do so with a clear conscience. If we do this, Mr. Speaker, we shall be able with good understanding between us, with cooperation from every race, to build a truly great country, a truly great nation for which generations to come will hold us in grateful memory.

On motion of Mr. Crête, the debate was adjourned.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

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END OF VOLUME III

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