

"One who has seen 150,000 Canadians under arms, the very flower of the country's youth at Valcartier, at Shorncliffe, and holding the trenches, one who realizes the uplifting spirit of unity and patriotism, cannot but shrink from pouring on the fires of patriotism the water of political strife and bitterness. That is the consideration that has animated the Government. We hope it will be accepted in the same spirit."

As was natural, interest was largely centred in the reply of the Opposition to the Government resolution, as it was admitted that no steps would be taken unless the House was of one opinion as to the desirability of securing the necessary legislation from the British Parliament.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, rose to the occasion, and in an eloquent address accepted for himself and his party the resolution as offered; and it was unanimously passed. During the course of his address he paraphrased the burning sentence of the Liverpool labourer, saying that, "If Germany wins, no king else in God's world matters." He continued, "It is not the time for giving play to motives of ambition, thoughts of advancement or even the removal of unfaithful stewardship. . . . It is our duty to aid measures that have for their object the successful prosecution of the war, and to oppose all measures detrimental thereto. . . . But let us, above all, remember what we owe to ourselves, to Britain, to Europe and to mankind at large. . . . Civilization is greater than Empire, and civilization is the issue of the present war, who would doubt now that if Germany were to win it would mean the end of all that Canadian hold sacred? . . . The issue of the war is still pending, and until Belgium regains her independence, and France her territory, Canada's part is to give all the assistance in its power to England in the struggle she has undertaken against the common enemy of mankind."