

normal. He is in my estimation too big a man to make such a criticism as he made yesterday; and as a physician I have diagnosed his case. I am sorry the honourable gentleman is not here. He was suffering from a sluggish liver and a very disordered spleen. I have made this prognosis, however: he would make a very rapid recovery, and I have no doubt that my honourable friend is to-day back in his normal physical and mental condition.

I said there seemed to be a concerted action to abuse the Union Government and to criticise adversely the work that it did, and especially to criticise Sir Robert Borden. I have no brief for Sir Robert, nor does he need to be defended by me, and I trust that any remarks of mine will be considered as coming from myself only. I have watched Sir Robert Borden pretty carefully and, although I have tried to think back to the very beginning, I do not know of any mistake that he made in the conduct of the war. From the criticism to which I listened in the other House and the criticism made yesterday in this Chamber it does seem to me that the members of the Opposition in the House of Commons and the members of the Opposition—if it may be termed an Opposition—in this House absolutely forget that for four or five years we were carrying on a war. They talk about the immense debt and about our ministers being away from Parliament and off in Europe; but I would remind those honourable members that there has been a war—a very severe war, and if our debt has increased and if there is unrest in this country to-day, these effects may be attributed largely to the events that have been occurring throughout the world, particularly in the belligerent countries in Europe, during the last four or five years. The unrest which undoubtedly does exist is not confined to Canada. I think I am within the bounds of truth in saying that unrest is prevalent all over the world. But let me confine my remarks to this country. There is unrest amongst the soldiers. How could it be otherwise, honourable gentlemen? Five hundred thousand young men went overseas from this country to preserve our liberty—in fact, I may say, to preserve our very selves. There are present in this House to-day men who have experienced the loss of sons. When we consider for a moment the trials to which our men were subjected during the war, not only in the trenches, but elsewhere, is it any wonder that there is unrest among the soldiers at present? To my mind it could not be other-

wise, and what surprises me is not that there is unrest, but the fact that there is not a great deal more unrest than at present. And what about the people who stayed at home? It may safely be said that there is scarcely a hamlet in this great country of Canada that has not felt the trying conditions of the war. Those who did not have husbands or sons or brothers over there certainly had friends whose relatives were overseas. In my own little town we have had a number of sad cases. One in particular is that of a woman who sent three sons to the war; they are all buried in Flanders. The point I wish to make is that, as not only the soldiers who have returned, but also many other people, have been affected by the war, we could not expect conditions to be normal.

My honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) told us yesterday that Quebec would vote against Union Government. That was brand new information to us, surely; it was something we did not expect.

A great deal has been said about the money which we have expended and the amount we have borrowed. Reference has been made to the fact that the public debt of Canada has increased from \$350,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000. That is not strange. Does any one think that war can be carried on for any length of time without very greatly increasing the public debt? We have heard complaints, both here and in the other House, because of the large amount of money that has been raised in Canada. Over and over again, it has been stated that the Government had lost the confidence of the people. If that is so, it seems most peculiar that they should have been able to raise the large amount of money they did.

My honourable friend from Halifax (Hon. Mr. Roche) yesterday asked what we had got in return for the money expended. He said:

We spent two thousand millions of money; we gave the services of five hundred thousand men, and, what was more precious, sacrificed the lives of sixty thousand men. What have we got in return?

I must say that it never occurred to me that we entered the war expecting to gain anything. I am sure that when Parliament met in the special session of 1914 such a thought never entered the minds of the members of either the House of Commons or of the Senate. What was our object in entering into the war? One of the most autocratic and devilish men in the world had undertaken, after years of preparation,