

but with Great Britain and the United States as well, there would have been no war; there would have been a conference and a special settlement. I do not say this with the slightest suggestion of criticism upon the Government of either country. In our democracies action involving the issue of war depends not so much upon the Government as upon the vision and purpose of the people. I pray that the people of both Commonwealths may rise to the full realization that their responsibility and duty for the world's peace are not less than their world-wide power and influence.

Meantime this message comes from your kinsmen who fight for you yonder in France and Flanders: "We have fought and we have endured; we will fight and endure to the end. As we do our part so we pray that you shall do yours until the dawn of abiding peace through victory."

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**A SPEECH AT THE DIRECTORS' LUNCHEON,  
CENTRAL CANADA EXHIBITION, OTTAWA,  
SEPTEMBER 9, 1918.**

In the first place permit me to congratulate the Directors of the Central Canada Exhibition upon the courage and vision which has enabled them and their predecessors to build up the Exhibition to its present status and to maintain it during the past four years of war. One must be impressed with the educative value of such exhibitions; they afford the people the means of knowing our resources, their development and the abundance of opportunity in a young, rapidly growing country like Canada. Upon its educational purpose and service the permanence of any exhibition must finally depend; there must be a definite purpose beyond mere amusement or enjoyment. I have been particularly struck with the development of the Canadian National Exhibition along these lines, and doubtless the Central Canada Exhibition has had the same purpose.

Official and private visitors from European countries, such as France and Belgium and Denmark, where the density of the populations has taught the people lessons not yet learned here, have been impressed with the great wastefulness everywhere apparent in this country. It has been asserted by those who have given close attention to the subject that in almost any city in Canada enough is wasted in one week to provide food for the whole city for two days out of the seven. Perhaps that is an exaggeration, but it is perfectly true that there is great waste; for example, certain