

that this young, sparsely populated, comparatively undeveloped country needs all her men and all her means. Some it may be among you are determined to go further afield than Canada. To those of you who feel that way let me say that the British Empire is world enough for any of you. Within it you may find every condition of climate, society and surroundings and I make bold to state that if any of you would tell me of any peculiar circumstances particularly attractive to your tastes in any foreign country I can point you to some portion of the Empire where the conditions are practically identical, and if this be so, why! I ask should anyone of you choose expatriation rather than to continue to live under the same institutions under which you have lived heretofore and which I know require no commendation at my hands in such an assembly in order that they should receive that respect and consideration which is their due. If you must go far afield—some men are built that way I know—at least stay within the Empire and then the loss while it will be local will not be national which after all is the main point.

I can very well remember the time when I could hardly have said that much honestly. The time was when I felt that a Canadian's duty began and ended with the interests of Canada. That time has gone for ever and I personally have arrived at that point where I feel that the interests of the Empire as a whole are paramount and that the sectional interests of any portion of it must ultimately be subservient to Imperial interests where they may tend to clash.

I have about arrived at the point for instance where I would consider any legislative enactment for the benefit of Canada at the expense of the rest of the Empire to be sectional in spirit and therefore pernicious as I heretofore would have considered any legislative advantage to Toronto or any other city at the expense of the rest of the Province. But I must not pursue this most inviting theme further. I have rambled enough already but I am glad to have had the opportunity of giving my views on this subject here more particularly because I held strongly to views very different to these when at College and may have given expression to them too, for I do not know that I was what might be termed backward in stating my opinions either privately or publicly in those days, rather too much the other way I fear.