

what will be the future of this Empire will have to be a group of men chosen from this Dominion not by party guidance or by party methods, for it is inconceivable to me that a Government sustained by the vote of a section of this Dominion which, no matter for what reason or conscience, were unwilling to bear their share in this struggle would be permitted without civil strife to determine what part Canada should take in the Imperial Council which must follow the war. I bring to you, to whatever extent you will permit it, as serious a note as I am capable of indicating, that this great struggle, all the things that are involved in it, all the sacrifices that are being made by your sons and your brothers and your fathers, all that this Empire stands for, all that these people at home are suffering, call upon us to burn up the dross and to pray God that we may be wise and patriotic and truthful and heart-searching in our relations to ourselves, and that we seek above all to be right.

I thank you for your patience. I was brought up in an old-fashioned school. I have memories that neither money, nor power, nor place can provide. I have the memory of the passionate, unruly, masterful boy, brought into the little room in a humble home with an overwrought woman, who was my mother, and who taught me long ago that the way for deliverance from meanness and selfishness and wrong was to kneel before the throne of the Almighty and pray Him, as she used to for her boy, for a new heart. Gentlemen, may I urge, not as a better man than you are, but in the gravity of a situation where this nation is in the throes of a struggle to the finish that you will seek to remove everything that is mean, and nasty, and suspicious, and partisan that we may commonly serve. Our need is a spirit, not of fear, "but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (Prolonged Applause.)