

the battle line and stood shoulder to shoulder with the Allied veterans and fought victoriously against the veteran legions of Germany and her confederates. The record of St. Julien and Neuve Chapelle and Loos, and many another stricken field will always be to the credit of Canada and her soldiers. I never see the boys passing through Ottawa after being reviewed by the Governor General or the Minister of Militia but I feel that the name of Canada is safe on ever shoulder that bears it.

From a country of peace we suddenly became a country of war; from a country without an army we suddenly raised an army of thirty thousand men. This army was increased to fifty thousand, then to a hundred thousand, and then to a hundred and fifty thousand. We authorized the raising of a quarter of a million men, and another quarter of a million is about to be raised, a wonderful exploit for such a country as Canada.

Comparisons between what one province has done and what another province has done are odious; I do not wish to follow the statistics in regard to that. I just want to say, in a general way, that I am particularly proud of the western provinces between the lakes and the mountains, because they have furnished so many splendid regiments to fight alongside of their brothers from the eastern provinces in this great cause. I feel that the faith of our fathers in that vast country is well justified by the results of to-day, when we consider that a few short years ago, while we had the eastern provinces as the basis of Confederation, the plains west of the lakes were barren, the home of the buffalo and the Indian, with only a few white people beyond the mountain ranges on the Pacific coast. The buffalo trail has given place to the railway, the Indian wigwam to the home of the settler, and to-day great commonwealths have been carved out of those prairies. As a result, when the empire called for assistance, those prairie provinces sent forth their sons in great numbers to fight in this great cause. The province of British Columbia, which a few short years ago was, as someone said, a sea of mountains without enough white people to raise a regiment, has raised a division. The territory I represent, although its population is small, has done its little share; and as time goes on more men will be sent on from there and from the western provinces. The whole of Canada has done well and will do better as time goes on and more men are needed, because our boys are all fighting

for the cause we believe in; they are all fighting that the flag which flies above this building shall continue to wave over this vast country of ours.

In regard to the fortunes of the war, we have had our setbacks and disappointments as well as our victories. If we have had Gallipoli, we have also had the Marne. If we have lost Serbia, we have saved the old capital of the Thessalonians, and Saloniki is to-day a great fortress on the Aegean sea, which we trust will yet be of some use in carrying on this war. If we have failed at Bagdad, we have saved Calais, the Gibraltar of the North sea. A ring of steel surrounds our enemy on land and sea, from the Baltic to the Black sea, and from Dixmude to Switzerland. The allied fleet keeps watch and ward from the Skagerack to the Persian gulf. The Black sea, the Mediterranean sea, the North sea, all the inland seas of Europe, are in the hands of the Allies, except a small portion of the Baltic. More than that, the oceans of the earth are open to us but not to our enemies.

We have had misfortunes in this war, but let us not be discouraged. History tells us that we have had misfortunes in other wars. When the great Duke of Marlborough was in the very midst of his glorious career, he was menaced behind his back by hostile intrigues due to dynastic and party politics; yet he fought great battles and won great victories for the empire. Sir John Moore was attacked for his retreat on Corunna; yet his advance as well as his retreat disarranged Napoleon's plans. The embarkation at Corunna did not end in our defeat in the Peninsular war, nor will the evacuation of Gallipoli end in our defeat in this war. During this war many generals have been changed, but in other wars other generals were changed. Wellington himself at the battle of Vimeiro was superseded by two British generals; He was forced to sign the convention of Cintra, and he was afterwards tried before a parliamentary committee. Yet Wellington fought the marshals of the great Napoleon one after the other and was finally successful over Napoleon himself at Waterloo. Every one knows what a muddle the Crimean war was; even the Boer war was notable for many unfortunate events; but we were not dismayed. We are not dismayed now. History gives us warnings; but it gives us encouragement as well, and we shall be lacking in the wisdom which comes from experience