

different parts of the British Empire for the purpose of co-ordinating a policy that will affect the interests of the whole Empire. So far as the different parts of the Empire outside of Europe are concerned, there is no doubt that the Premiers of the Dominions can give very valuable advice and assist in many ways in settling questions that will arise; but I do not suppose for one instant that representatives of any of the Dominions would think of offering any advice on questions arising out of such a complicated situation as that which exists in the Balkans at the present time. These are questions which, to my mind, are entirely outside the scope of the Dominions and will probably, in the good judgment of our representatives, be left to be dealt with by those who have made a much closer study of them for many years.

In conclusion, may I say that we shall, as hitherto, endeavour to meet all questions that may arise with regard to the war in a fair and straightforward manner, and to give such criticism to all measures that the Government may propose as will help, and not hinder, in improving the work that the Government has to do, and in such a way as to show the country that in the prosecution of this war we present a united front and are only anxious to do all that we can to bring it to a successful termination.

Hon. Sir James LOUGHEED: Hon. gentlemen, I beg to join with my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition in extending congratulations to the hon. gentlemen who have moved and seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. It is a time-honoured custom in speaking on the Address to extend the congratulations of the Chamber to those hon. gentlemen. On this particular occasion, entirely irrespective of custom, we can extend our congratulations with every feeling of sincerity and felicity, purely on the ground that the mover and seconder have performed in a most able way the task that was allotted to them. Both speeches have been interesting, instructive and able, and augur well for the thought and ability which those hon. gentlemen will bring to bear on the deliberations of this body.

It may not be out of place to make reference to the first clause of the Speech from the Throne, namely, that which refers to the appointment of His Excellency the Governor General to the high office which he has recently been called upon to fill, and which we know, from the valuable public services which he has already rendered to the state,

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he will fill with acceptability to the people of Canada and with due regard to the high and important duties associated with the office of Governor General of Canada. While it was with the deepest regret that Canada extended its farewell to his immediate predecessor, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, than whom no previous Governor General gave more anxious thought and time to the performance of the high duties of his office, we are conscious that in the person of His Excellency the present Governor General we have a very fitting successor to represent the Crown in Canada.

This is the fourth session that has been called since the declaration of war. All these sessions may be said peculiarly to have been war sessions in the sense that all other public considerations have been subordinated to the all-absorbing responsibility that has been thrown upon Canada in taking its part in the unprecedented struggle that is now being waged between the Allies and our enemy. In August, 1914, when the declaration of war was made, we could scarcely have anticipated the magnitude which the struggle has assumed and the unlooked-for responsibilities which Canada has been called upon, and that gladly, to assume. If in August, 1914, it had been predicted that we would have furnished more than the first contingent, it would have been received with doubt in many places. If it had been predicted that the first contingent would have been increased to the number of men already recruited, namely, approximately four hundred thousand, it would have been looked upon as visionary and as something outside the pale of possibility. But during the progress of the war the patriotism of Canada in its adhesion to and love for the Empire has so increased and risen as to bring within the bounds of the practicable that which in 1914 seemed to be the impossible.

Not only has Canada enlisted 400,000 men, but the financial burdens which she has assumed in addition to the response to patriotic benevolence which has exhibited itself throughout every part of the Dominion, has given her a prominent place amongst the Allies in the war, and has increased the pride of every loyal Canadian in the great imperial role which it has been our privilege to play. This is the first time in the history of Canada we have raised our public loans in the shape of war loans within our own boundaries, and that to the unprecedented extent of two hundred millions of dollars. We have been in addition thereto of valuable assistance in financing large