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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 6, 1915.

EVERY MAN AND THE WAR.

If those who heard Mr. N. W. Rowell Monday before the Canadian Club of this city could have their way they would no doubt have everybody in New Brunswick listen to the same speech. It was at once bold and eloquent. It made clear in the first place the basic differences between the British system of government and the Prussian system, the difference between the German ideals and the British ideals with respect to liberty, to peace, to the general welfare of the world. It brought out clearly the nature, not only of the Prussian aims, but of the instrument by which Germany is attempting to carry those aims into effect—the Prussian military machine—the meaning of a nation in arms, absolutely dominated by the autocratic power of the Kaiser and his advisers.

Mr. Rowell is not one of those speakers who believes it either honest or wise to belittle the dangers confronting the British Empire. No one has more faith than in our people or our institutions, but he evidently wished to bring home to everyone the truth that there is going on today a battle to the death between true democracy and the forces of reaction, the first represented by the British Empire, and the second by Germany. Perhaps no one who has spoken in this city since the war began brought out so pointedly the duty of every citizen of the Empire in these circumstances. Mr. Rowell tells us that every man of military age ought today to be asking himself not: Why should I join the colors? but Why should I not join the colors? Mr. Rowell does not believe that Germany and its allies can triumph, but he says that they will triumph unless the forces of democracy, the men brought up under British institutions, the men whose forefathers fought and died for real freedom, are true to themselves and to their cause in this great crisis. He would have no man evade the issue. He would have every man of fighting age remind himself that if our great cause fails it will be because he would not face his own responsibility, because the Prussian system, coupled with conscription and the enthronement of force, has proved more than a match for the people professing belief in free democracy, in fair play, and in peace. Might, as Mr. Rowell pointed out, will overcome right if the people of the British Empire hesitate to give themselves for the cause of liberty. He does not believe they are hesitating, or will hesitate, and he paid a most eloquent tribute to the valor of those whose courage on the battlefields of this war already has been a cause of pride and inspiration throughout the Empire. But more men are necessary, and will be necessary for a long time to come, and he would have everybody realize that this is a testing time, a time in which the sons of liberty should not only not hesitate to join the colors but should gladly embrace the opportunity to fight for so glorious a cause; for, says Mr. Rowell, while our Empire represents peaceful ideals, if these are threatened, if these will be destroyed unless we draw the sword, then indeed the sword must be drawn and never sheathed again until the good cause has triumphed.

For men of all ages, but particularly those of the active service age, for women who have so much influence over the men from whom armies are made, for every loyal citizen of Canada, the address of Mr. Rowell is at once an inspiration and a battle-cry. He is now being heard for the first time in the Maritime Provinces, and those who had the pleasure of hearing him yesterday must all have regretted that he was not speaking in a great hall where thousands could hear him. The Liberals of Ontario have in Mr. Rowell a rapidly rising man and a great leader.

THE POSSIBILITIES.

Britain's annual drink bill, alcoholic and non-alcoholic, is $1,150,000,000, for tobacco it is $175,000,000, and for motor cars it is $375,000,000. That is a total of $1,700,000,000, or not much less than the cost of the war for a year at five millions a day. The wastes of peace are greater than those of war, so far as money goes, and that is why it is so comparatively easy for a large nation to sustain the drains of war.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

These are vast sums. The expenditure for automobiles no doubt includes vehicles for commercial and business use, which are by no means luxuries. But, even making allowance for that, the figures indicate the great extent to which national economy is possible in the course of a long war and one expensive beyond all parallel. These figures, too, suggest that even in the smaller countries like Canada the annual expenditure on non-essentials is very great in comparison with the national expenses for public services. The experience of Russia is impressing upon the world the manner in which economy in some directions may be forced upon the people in a national crisis. Too many people refuse to believe certain economies are possible until they are compelled to make them. And in a time of national financial stress the average man is reminded very forcibly of the necessity for making provision for a rainy day.

PARLIAMENT.

There are intimations from Ottawa to the effect that the party leaders are finding it difficult to arrive at an agreement whereby Canada would follow Great Britain's good example and postpone a general election until after the war. A report from Ottawa yesterday indicated that the Liberals were disposed to inquire into matters connected with the equipment and training of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force, that the government had decided that there must be no such inquiry, and that rather than have it they would dissolve Parliament and go to the country. That would mean a flag election, not for the purpose of rallying the country to the support of the Empire in this war, for the country is already whole-heartedly devoted to that cause, but really for the purpose of smothering threatened revelations in connection with Valcartier. A day or two will show whether or not the government is taking any such ground. We must hope that it is not.

Charges in connection with Valcartier have thus far been disregarded very generally by Liberal newspapers, because they feared that if these matters were taken up before Parliament met, one result might be to depress the recruiting that was going on for the second contingent. But it was taken for granted that when Parliament did meet the more serious of the charges referred to would be given impartial investigation in order that the country at large might learn the truth and might have some assurance that greater care would be exercised henceforward.

If it is now possible to avoid a controversial session without injury to the public good, it should be avoided. The supreme business of the hour is to enlist, prepare, equip, and despatch more men to the fighting line, and any action the government may take in proper furtherance of this work will meet with public approval. It should not, however, be proposed to shut off investigation of any well-founded charges by a threat to dissolve the House. Such a course would be unworthy of any government. On the other hand, no charges should be made unless they are well-founded and deal with matters of grave public concern. This is no time to seek to make political capital, for or against the government. The war is Canada's business today. In our preparation to do our full share in it there should be no reason for suppression or concealment except in relation to questions in connection with which information would be of military value to the enemy.

GERMAN TROUBLE-MAKERS.

The attempt of a German agent to destroy the railway bridge at Vanceboro has raised another international problem which will no doubt be solved to the satisfaction of both Canada and the United States. Incidentally it will serve to impress upon the Canadian railway officials and the military authorities the necessity of placing under guard all important bridges, elevators and dock facilities during the remainder of the war. Happily the damage to the Vanceboro bridge is light, and will entail no serious consequences, but it might easily have been different.

The work of Horne was no doubt carefully planned. There is reason to suppose that he has the backing and support of the large body of German trouble-makers throughout the United States. That will make his extradition more difficult, but it is the opinion of Canadian lawyers that he can and will be brought across the border to be dealt with by Canada. His plea is that his act was an act of war and that he cannot be legally surrendered to an enemy of Germany. The Canadian authorities disagree with him, and it is believed their opinion will be shared by the government at Washington.

Whether Horne is a German officer, as he says he is, or not, there is no doubt that he acted according to plans made by the pro-German agitators who since the war began have been busily engaged in an effort to stir up anti-British feeling in the United States. While they probably counted upon the destruction of the bridge bringing up a contentious problem which might not be dealt with by the United States to Canada's satisfaction, it is possible that their principal aim was to seriously interfere with the shipment of grain from the west to the Atlantic seaboard. In any event, had Horne's task been successfully carried out, it would have resulted in a costly inconvenience not only to the railway but also to the public in general. If he is handed over to Canada, as he is likely to be, he will no doubt receive the maximum punishment for his crime.

OVERDOING IT.

A group of German-Americans whose desire is to promote the German cause, met in Washington on Saturday to launch in the name of neutrality a national movement that if successful would go a long way towards increasing the difficulties of the Allies in their fight for freedom. The purpose of the meeting they said was the promotion of "genuine American neutrality." Instead, they adopted a programme that flagrantly violates all the principles of neutrality and exposes their hand from the start. In asking for congressional legislation prohibiting the exportation to any belligerent of all munitions of war, they contend that such a law would be justified on the ground that the exportation of arms tends to prolong the war and "is irreconcilable with our prayers for peace." While they do not say so openly they make it plain that their idea of American neutrality is for the United States government to adopt measures which would tend to neutralize the British fleet's command of the sea. And they ask the American people to accept their representations as sincere.

This attempt of German agitators to unduly influence the minds of the thinking people of America has again led the leading newspapers in the United States to warn the German leaders that it is time to call a halt. "What they forget," says the Boston Transcript, "is that the great body of the American people never join them in singing 'Deutschland Uber Alles,' nor will peace in Europe be welcomed here while Belgium remains in Germany's possession. Were the German fleet in command of the sea would Congressman Bartholdt be pressing congress to place the embargo upon arms for which he and his band of troublemakers are now agitating? To ask the question is to answer it." The Transcript continues:

"For men and women of German birth to be irritated over the trend of American public opinion since the war began is easy to understand. Their effort to check the tide of anti-German feeling by argument and discussion, and by criticism of the Allies, is logical and legitimate, but when they resort to political blackmail in an effort to elect candidates to public office pledged to fasten upon the United States a policy of neutrality 'Made in Germany' they go entirely too far and compel the conclusion that it is time to call a halt, not only at Washington but throughout the country, on their plan of campaign."

In view of this activity on the part of pro-Germans in America it is interesting to consider how many people there are in the United States of German birth. Congressman Bartholdt while trying to persuade his colleagues to prohibit the exportation of war materials, declared that the guns and bullets shipped to the Allies by the United States were killing the kinsmen of 25,000,000 Americans. What he meant was that 25,000,000 of the people now in the United States are descended from Germans who came from Germany during the last century. The leading newspapers across the border are pointing out that the Bartholdt statement is a gross exaggeration. In his "Germany and the Germans" Price Collier who had made a deep study of the subject, said:

"Since 1820 5,200,000 Germans have settled in the United States. In 1910 there were 8,282,618 white persons of German origin in the United States; 2,501,181 were born in Germany, 3,911,847 were born in the United States, both of whose parents were born in Germany; 1,860,590 were born in the United States having one parent born in the United States and one in Germany."

While Mr. Collier did not take into consideration the people in the United States whose admixture of German blood came from as far back as the second generation, with due allowance for this it is apparent that the estimate of 18,000,000 German-Americans is amply large. In other words the Bartholdt estimate is twice as great as it ought to be.

With all these facts in mind, it is not surprising that a widespread public protest against the ill-timed movement just launched at Wassington has quickly been started in the United States.

EVERYTHING GOES.

In attacking and sinking the steamer Tokomaru in the English channel the Germans destroyed a precious cargo of foodstuffs collected for the starving Belgian refugees. No part of the cargo, which included nearly 100,000 carcasses of mutton, was intended for the British people. It was shipped for the exclusive use of the helpless thousands who, through no fault of their own, have lost their homes and their rights. Although the Germans knew this they ignored all the rules of civilized warfare and sent a torpedo into the ship without even going through the formality of warning the crew. It was nothing to them that noncombatant sailors were likely to be murdered.

That action was bad enough, but it was not so serious an offence as the attack made by a German submarine on the British hospital ship Asturias. It is clear that henceforth undefended towns and hospital ships will be as ruthlessly destroyed whenever possible as were the Rheims cathedral and the famous library at Louvain.

CONDITIONAL CONTRABAND.

The British fleet has been ordered to treat cargoes of grain and flour destined for Germany or Austria as conditional contraband, subject to seizure and confiscation. This step has been taken as a result of Germany's decision to confiscate grain and flour to conserve her food supply, and means another addition to Great Britain's long list of "conditional contraband." Almost any sort of merchandise is useful to the modern army and in order to be assured that neutrals are not shipping contraband to Germany, Britain is compelled to adopt very stringent measures.

It is the "conditional contraband" that gives the most trouble. The first class of contraband is easy to recognize, for guns and munitions of war automatically reveal their hostile character. The real difficulty lies in the second or conditional class, which includes such articles as foodstuffs.

While the United States has given no reply to Britain's note regarding the seizure of grain and flour cargoes destined for the enemy, it is hoped that the necessity of such action by the British fleet will be understood by every American who is not a pronounced supporter of Germany's cause. A Neutral country is naturally inclined to limit to a minimum the allowable interference of belligerents with its trade. Great Britain, fighting for her life, has an equally natural desire to prevent her enemy receiving anything which may be used for the maintenance of an army or navy. And she is in a position to back up this desire with her fleet.

The attitude of both Great Britain and the United States in dealing with these troublesome questions has been pre-eminently friendly, and each country is acting with a desire to consider all the claims of the other, and to bring about a solution of the problems envolved with no loss of mutual goodwill.

WAR COMMENT.

How long can Germany stand it? Sir Edward Holden, in an address to London bankers on January 29, said the war is costing Germany $10,000,000 a day. "We cannot expect a cessation of war within twelve months," he declared, "on account of Germany's gold position. I don't say there might not be a cessation of hostilities for other reasons." Austria, he felt sure, could not continue the war much longer unless Germany provides financial assistance. No doubt Germany will do so, but that will reduce her own reserves, and while loans to Austria cannot be avoided there is no guarantee that Austria, even with the loans, can stand the pace. In that quarter, of course, everything depends upon Russian progress. If the Russian forces are able to seize and hold a large section of Austro-Hungarian territory in the spring, German loans to Austria would be money wasted.

Comment from another quarter dwells upon naval superiority as the decisive factor. Mr. F. I. Cadwallader of New York says:

"I shall make no prophecies as to the final outcome of the war. But it still remains true, as it was at the beginning, that if Germany can destroy the British fleet she wins. And otherwise she loses. The Germans have been diligent students of the teachings of the late Admiral Mahan of the supreme importance of the sea power, and it is their recognition of Great Britain's pre-eminince in that regard, and of their own impotence, that makes them so furious against her."

As to naval power, Britain is soon to have in service the new ships of the Royal Squadron class, carrying 15-inch or 15.5-inch guns. These have thirty per cent. more power than the 13.5-inch guns of the Lion and Tiger class. It is estimated that by the time any other nation has two ships armed with 15-inch guns, Britain will have ten. The new ships will be much faster than the first class battleships of 1914, and their protection against mines and torpedoes will be more effective. The Warspite, the first of these ships, is to be ready a few months hence. If sea power is to prove the decisive factor, as many authorities insist (the late Admiral Mahan was of that opinion) the superiority of Britain and her allies, already great, will increase steadily during 1915. It will be overwhelming at the time when the new British armies are ready to be moved to France. It will be great as Germany begins to grow desperate because of the need for outside supplies.

While Italy or Roumania, or both, may join the Allies at any time now, and while the participation of either would be of immense help in shortening the war, it may be that both will remain neutral until after the first stage of the spring campaign. How long can Germany defend both frontiers after the British and French in the west and the Russians in the east begin to strike with all the force of their larger armies? The summer campaign will answer this question. Italy and Roumania may not wait for that.

A PLAIN CASE.

The case of the German arrested in Maine after his attempt to blow up the C. P. R. bridge across the St. Croix is well treated by the New York World, which says the United States should not hesitate to grant his extradition as soon as it is requested by the Canadian authorities. As the World says, if one German subject in the United States, having crossed the Canadian border and committed a crime, can lawfully demand the protection of the American government, 200,000 German residents of the United States might cross the border and commit crimes and then set up a claim to the same protection.

As the crime was committed in Canada and the alien immediately took refuge in the United States, there should be no difficulty in having him turned over to the Canadian authorities for trial and punishment. It happens in this instance that the damage to the bridge was not really great, but the bridge might well have been so badly damaged that trains might have fallen through, or that traffic would have been interrupted for a long time. Canada will naturally demand an opportunity to deal with this case in accordance with the gravity of the offence. The punishment for such a crime should be sufficient very effectually to discourage any other persons who may be plotting similar enterprises. Most of all, notice should be served upon the world at large that enemies of the British Empire committing crimes in Canada must not expect protection from the United States if they succeed in escaping across the border.

The case does not seem to present any difficulties in the matter of international law, and it is not to be expected that the United States authorities will hesitate to turn the prisoner over to Canada. No doubt the German ambassador at Washington will attempt to create international friction over this matter, but the nature of the case should make it impossible for him to succeed.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Liberal candidate in Westmorland county for the House of Commons was elected Monday by acclamation. One fortunate result of this arrangement is the return of Mr. A. B. Copp whose ability and experience make him a worthy successor to Westmorland's late representative. He has received the unanimous endorsement of the electors and he may be depended upon to give them good service.

* * *

The second contingent from Australia has reached Egypt. With their comrades already in training there they are likely to have sometaing to say about the proposed march on Egypt of the Turks.

* * *

French airmen, as well as British aviators, have served notice on Germany that they too possess a certain amount of skill in bomb dropping. There is a difference in their methods, however. The British and French airmen make their attacks on naval and Zeppelin bases, staff headquarters and other points of military significance; the Germans have so far preferred hospitals, private houses and non-combatants.

* * *

It is apparent that Italy is rapidly and carefully preparing to enter the war. All her reservists in Great Britain have been called to the colors. Italy has very solid reasons for seeking to have a voice in the settlement which will follow this struggle.

* * *

The fact that the council of Greater Berlin has found it necessary to employ 12,000 special constables to guard the bakeries of the city against "any irregularities on the part of the public" gives one a pretty good idea how the war is affecting the German people.

INTERCESSION.

(By Alfred Noyes.)

Now the muttering gun-fire dies,
Now the night has cloaked the slain,
Now the stars patrol the skies,
Hear our sleepless prayer again!
They who work their country's will,
Fight and die for Britain still,
Soldiers, but not haters, know
Thou must pity friend and foe.
Therefore hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Thou whose wounded Hands do reach
Over every land and sea—
Thoughts too deep for human speech
Rise from all our souls to Thee;
Deeper than the wrath that burns
Round our hosts when day returns;
Deeper than the peace that fills
All these trenched and waiting hills.
Hear, O hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Pity, deeper taan the grave,
Sees, beyond the death we wield,
Faces of the young and brave
Hurled against us in the field.
Canon-fodder! They must come.
We must slay them, and be dumb;
Slaughter, while we pity, these
Most implacable enemies.
Master, hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

They are blind, as we are blind,
Urged by duties past reply.
Ours is but the task assigned,
Theirs to strike us ere they die.
Who can see his country fall?
Who but answers at her call?
Who has power to pause and think
When she reels upon the brink?
Hear, O hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Shield them from that bitterest lie
Laughed by fools who quote their mirth,
When the wings of death go by
And their brother shrieks on earth.
Though they clamp their hearts with steel,
Conquering every fear they feel,
There are dreams they dare not tell.
Shield, O shield, their eyes from hell.
Father, hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Where the naked bodies burn,
Where the wounded toss at home,
Weep and bleed and laugh in turn,
Yes, the masking jest may come.
Let him jest who daily dies,
But O hide his haunted eyes.
Pain alone he might control,
Shield, O shield his wounded soul,
Master, hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Peace? We steel us to the end.
Hope betrayed us long ago.
Duty binds both foe and friend,
It is ours to break the foe.
Then, O God, that we might break
This red Moloch for Thy sake,
Know that Truth indeed prevails,
And that Justice holds the scales.
Hear, O hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

England, could this awful hour
Dawning on thy long renown,
Mark the purpose of thy power,
Crown thee with that mightier crown!
Broadening to that purpose climb
All the blood-red wars of time. . . .
Thou alone canst set us free!
Crown with Law our Liberty!
England, hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.

Speed, O speed what every age
Writes with a prophetic hand,
Read the midnight's moving page,
Read the stars and understand:
Out of Chaos ye shall draw
Deepening harmonies of Law,
Till around the Eternal Sun
All your peoples move in one.
Christ-God, hear,
Both for foe and friend, our prayer.
—London Chronicle.

The Fly in the Ointment.

I never care when my feet are wet,
Though grown-ups worry so;
I never trouble how cold I get—
I'm tougher'n people know.
And the coldest kind of a day just suits;
But I hate when snow gets into my boots.

I like it often to storm and blow;
I don't want it always fair.
I fight and play in the deepest snow;
If a snowball hits me square
I ain't the kind that hollers and scoots;
But I hate when the snow gets into my boots.

I'd never button my coat at all
If people would let me be.
I never mind when I slip and fall
In slush way up to my knee,
Not even if somebody laughs and hoots;
But I hate when the snow gets into my boots.
—Burges Johnson, in Harper's Magazine.

Made Over.

"He is a self-made man, is he not?"

"Yes, except for the alterations made by his wife and her mother."—St. James' Gazette.

The ship purchase bill is encountering heavy weather in Washington.

FINE EXPRESSION OF TRUE DEMOCRACY

Britain Staking Resources of the Empire to Carry Out Her Pledge to Belgium

Leader of Liberal Opposition in Ontario in Great Address to Canadian Club Points Out That the Supreme Appeal to British Sons the World Over is Now Being Made—Striking Passages of an Eloquent Speech.

Tuesday, Feb. 2.

At a luncheon gathering held yesterday by the Canadian Club at Bond's restaurant, N. W. Rowell, K. C., the leader of the Liberal opposition in Ontario, was the guest and spoke of Democracy vs. Militarism. Dr. H. S. Bridges presided and there was one of the largest attendances that the club has had this season. Mr. Rowell's fame had gone out before him. He is well known in Canada as one of the dominion's leading orators through his lectures on Canada's Future, and allied subjects. He was elected leader of the opposition in October, 1911, and he continues to share in the voluntary work of church, school and university of his native province of Ontario as he has for the last twenty years.

The address dealt with the war as it affected Canadian thought and sentiment rather than its material side, though that in the reference to the "four and five contingents" that would be necessary, was touched upon. In tone the address was one that vindicated the participation of Canada in the war up to the last.

"When I hear a young man say, 'Why should I enlist?' I say he has quite misunderstood the question. It is the call of our own land and at the call of that country his question should rather be, 'Why should I not enlist? Why should I not respond to my country's call'"

Dealing first in a general way with the difference in the constitutions of Germany and Great Britain, Hon. Mr. Rowell pointed out how the one stood for democracy and the other militarism, so that even a civilian would have to leave the sidewalk in Prussia at the dictate of an officer.

Referring to the unity of the empire Mr. Rowell said that the war had shown the essential unity of all its component parts in a manner that had proved surprising to those who thought the empire so loosely joined together that it could not stand the shock of a great war, a mistake in which Germany seemed to have shared.

In Canada he had been struck also with the patriotism of the public men who had turned away from party issues to the exposition of the highest hopes and aspirations of the Canadian people.

The unanimity of the provinces in coming forward with voluntary gifts was also a striking illustration not only of the common sentiment of the people of the various provinces but also of their common attachment to the empire.

Hopes Newfoundland Will Come In.

In an interesting reference to Newfoundland Mr. Rowell said "I venture the hope that, after the war, Newfoundland, the only British colony in North America outside of confederation will decide that it will be to her advantage to come in. If they do I also hope that our parliamentary leaders will have the wisdom and patriotism to offer such generous terms that they will not be a barrier to the success of the negotiations."

Another matter of special interest dealt with by the speaker was the imperial conference to which he referred as one of the greatest forces for the unifying of the empire. It was supposed to meet every four years and was regarded as of such importance that the Canadian parliament was adjourned in the midst of an important debate in 1911 to allow the leaders to attend. "If ever there was a time when the supreme council of the empire should meet," he said, "it is at this time of peril and crisis. No better illustration could be given to all the world of the unity and soliditary of the empire than such a meeting, at which representatives from all parts of the earth would meet to consider the welfare of the empire."

Mr. Rowell compared Germany and and England in regard to the relation to the military and civil power, the form of government, their attitude as to the recognition of nationality, their sentiments regarding universal peace and international intercourse, responsible government, the betterment of the condition of the masses, and their sentiments as to the relations of might and right. Mr. Rowell set forth very clearly the great contrast there is between the two countries in these various respects, the one representing militarism and the other democracy. The superiority of the British ideals was clearly shown. The speaker pointed out that Germany seeks to impose upon all nations and peoples her own ideals and culture, without any regard whatever for the natural feelings of people of different races and creeds. Great Britain on the other hand recognizes the inherent rights of the different peoples under her dominion, and the result is seen in the loyalty of South Africa and India and in the utter failure of Turkey to bring on a holy war.

"Germany believes in war—England believes in peace. The masses of the people are those upon whom the burden of war falls heaviest and by whom the war must be fought out. The masses of the people rule England and consequently England's policy is one of peace.

"Germany characterises international treaties as "scraps of paper" to be observed only so long as it is advantageous to the subscribers to do so. With such an international code in force, there would be no safety for any nation, and each and every country would have to remain perpetually armed to the teeth to protect its territory from its powerful neighbors. Great Britain says that treaties may be scraps of paper, but that a scrap of paper to which the name of Britain is affixed shall be backed by the might of Britain"s arm and the resources of the British empire. (Applause).

"The two supreme tests of democracy are these:—

First—To stand prosperity.

Second—Capacity for sacrifice in hours of grave national danger.

Are we prepared to make the sacrifices necessary to ensure the triumph of democracy over militarism? In Germany already all men from 18 to 45 have been called to the colors. In some cases men of 60 are under arms and in others boys of 16. In France, Russia, Belgium, Servia and Montenegro all the young men have been called to the colors. Shall we of Canada be less patriotic than the men of these countries in responding to the call, simply because there is no compulsion? Never has democracy been called upon so loudly for assistance. We in Canada will rise to the call and our young men will go in increasing numbers. (Applause).

Canadian Thought.

One of the most striking passages in the address was that in which Mr. Rowell said: "We in Canada have been thinking provincially. More recently we have come to think in terms of dominion; and still more recently in terms of empire, and this war forces upon us now more and more the necessity to think in terms of world politics. Whatever our own views may be, I think we are in world politics to stay. And we must try to qualify ourselves so far as we can to discharge our duties as citizens of this portion of the empire deeply concerned in world issues."

He wisely pointed out that the spirit of militarism if found in any other people would have had the same effect as it has had in Germany. Militarism meant the maintenance of the autocratic form of government. It meant the glorification of war, of power, and of world empire won by the sword, and every one of these ideals had found expression in Germany. The ideals of democracy included the civil power as supreme, government of the people, by the people and the recognition of nationality with arbitration where it is possible for the settlement of international disputes, international good faith, and the betterment of the masses.

"Britain staking the resources of the empire to carry out her pledge to Belgium is one of the finest expressions of true democracy this world has ever seen," said the speaker, in one of the most inspired passages in an address full of noble thoughts.

"While Britain confers her protection and her ideals upon all her dominions alike she imposes upon none of them the obligation of helping in defence. That is one of the most wonderful and valued things in the world today. While she voluntarily carries to her dominions the protection of her flag, she leaves it to them to say if they will respond to her call for aid and assistance in extending this protection to others, Britain says, 'I give you the opportunity and the right to choose to help, and I trust to you to respond.' The supreme appeal of Britain to her sons is made now. That appeal has been made to us. Are we worthy of the liberty that we have under her protection so long enjoyed?

"But the sun of liberty and democracy will not go out," continued the speaker, in a fine peroration. "The sun will not go out while Britain's sons in Canada, in Australia, in New Zealand, have a life to give or a dollar to spend for the great cause we hold so dear." (Loud applause).

A vote of thanks to Mr. Rowell was moved by Rev. G. A. Kuhring, who was in uniform as chaplain to the Canadian overseas forces. He mentioned that he had lived in the same city with Mr. Rowell for nineteen years, and knew that he was interested in all that would make the community better. The address had clarified the real issues of the war to all of them. Rev. W. H. Barraclough seconded, and in putting the motion the chairman remarked that he hoped that when Mr. Rowell next visited St. John it would not be as leader of the opposition in Ontario. (Laughter).

The gathering broke up with the singing of God Save the King.

Hon. Mr. White and the New Taxation

(Toronto Star.)

The country awaits with interest the development of Mr. White's financial scheme. There was a vote of $50,000,000 for war purposes last session, and it is believed that another $100,000,000 will be asked for when parliament assembles. If the war lasts another year there may be further drafts upon our financial resources. No doubt all the money asked for will be cheerfully voted, but the vote is only the first step. The finance minister must devise the ways and means, and apportion the burden upon the taxpayers as fairly as he can.

Before the war our total receipts from taxation were $135,000,000, of which nearly $112,000,000 came from customs duties and $21,500,000 from excise. There was no other form of federal taxation, except the fee paid upon the entrance of Chinamen into Canada. The special war taxation introduced by Mr. White last year increased the customs duties upon coffee and sugar, and the customs and excise duties upon cigars, tobacco, and spirits. There will, no doubt, be further increases in customs duties, and these must be upon revenue rather than protective duties. Increases in duties levied specially for protection might have the effect of reducing revenue by diminishing imports. Imports have already declined considerably. In the six months ending with September of last year the imports were $280,000,000 as compared with $340,000,000 in the corresponding six months of 1913, and we must expect a further decline owing to the war.

In these circumstances it will be necessary for Mr. White not only to make such increases in customs duties as are sure to produce more revenue, but to look to other methods of taxation. The duties on bills of exchange and other commercial paper which were abandoned in 1882 had in one year produced $244,000. But the volume of business has so swelled in the last thirty-two years that a much larger revenue could now be obtained from this source. The excise duties will no doubt be increased, and there is talk of extending them to patent medicines. At present there is no suggestion of an income tax, and it is not likely that, in this session at least, that source of revenue will be tapped.

Canada has abundant resources for this or any other national purpose. The only question is as to the ways and means of utilizing the national strength.