

*The Address—Mr. Tremblay*

tribute the worthy farming community of Canada whose members are so nobly doing their duty in this war. Our farmers—and I am rightly proud to single out those from Dorchester—have been quick to see where their duty lay, and in spite of the man-power shortage, in a conspicuous spirit of Canadian fellowship, they have achieved a general effort, by which our armies, our people and our allies have greatly benefited.

The right hon. the Prime Minister also wished to pay a sincere tribute to the Canadian army. Our young men and women, the sons and daughters of my former comrades who, true to noble traditions, are serving in this country or have gone to other lands in order to raise the bulwark of their gallantry against the onslaughts of barbarians who wanted to enslave the sons of freedom, are now adding a glorious page to our matchless history. To them Canada offers the tribute of her deepest admiration and her unflinching gratitude.

For more than three years, that is since I returned to the active army—for the second time in a quarter of a century—I have not been able to follow as steadily as I should have liked the debates of this house, nor the legislation which it has passed, but it is none the less true that I have constantly kept in touch with the worthy people whom I have the honour to represent here, and that my presence in the army has moreover enabled me to appreciate the spirit of the gallant youths who wear the uniform and so patriotically do their duty in the Canadian army.

In the present tragic times, an insight into the Canadian nation's sentiments makes us very proud of being Canadians. Indeed, among all the nations of the world, is there a single one which could, without feeling very proud of the fact, accomplish all that our young and valiant country, because of its perfect unity of purpose, has been able to contribute in the struggle of Christian civilization against nazi paganism? The incessant appeals to national unity made by our government leader have made it possible for our dear country to play a glorious part in the present world conflict and have assured universal admiration for us and the gratefulness of civilized nations to Canada, and I am firmly convinced that they will also have the effect of placing our country forever in the rank it deserves as a proud, young, valiant, gallant and freedom-loving country, among the free nations of the world.

The speech from the throne contains nothing that would be of a nature to repress such feelings on our part. Indeed, the legislative measures forecast inspire us with a brand of optimism that brings us real com-

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fort in these times fraught with severe disturbances when apprehension reigns over too many sections of the country.

The realization of the fact that post-war problems engage and hold the attention of the government is really comforting.

Putting their sorry past experiences to account, and without forgetting that the primary objective must remain the indefatigable prosecution of the war to a victorious conclusion, the governments of the united nations have combined their efforts with a view to finding an immediate solution to the grave problems that offered such a tremendous challenge in the years that followed the first great war. The speech from the throne reveals, on the part of the Canadian government, a clear intention of facing these problems as well as a strong determination of finding an adequate solution.

It is not my intention to delve into all the points raised in the speech from the throne, but I propose to give special attention to some of the extremely important measures suggested in order to avoid such difficulties as have jeopardized social peace in the years subsequent to the first world conflict.

To win a war at the price of the supreme sacrifice and then lose the benefits of a just peace that should logically follow victory, would be, in my estimation, a catastrophe of the same magnitude as war itself. Our young men and women, the flower of our youth, who have sacrificed everything in order that their country be spared the horrors of war and may continue to enjoy happiness and freedom in order that we all be free to think, to speak, to pray, to worship God who has created us to His image and likeness; these young people, I repeat, these heroes, have a right to expect that on the glorious day of their return, they will not be condemned to destitution. Indeed, our government—and the Canadian people will be thankful to them for it—announces in the speech from the throne, measures that will be adequate to prevent such a condition.

(Text): On returning to this country in 1918, the veterans of the last war had to face conditions altogether different. Everything had not been foreseen as it has been to-day; and it is fitting at the present time to pay tribute to those gallant heroes of 1914-18 who so nobly exalted Canada and paraded the standards of their victorious regiments in foreign countries. By using persuasion, and at times even coercion, the veterans won or wrested from successive governments one concession after another, securing, one point at a time, recognition of the reestablishment programme they had mapped