

over to England. I do not know whether it will be published in Canada or not. Nobody ever reads what is said in the Senate, and nobody cares, but the Senate should make a landmark to-day. We should accept what my honourable friend says—that they will do their duty. He pledges himself—and his word is good—that we will not stand for any wrongdoing. I will not use a stronger word than wrongdoing, or falling from grace. With that understanding, it is our duty to support the Government, but it is their duty to lop off all the rotten branches that are around them. When there is in the Government someone who is useful, we will keep him; when he is not useful, we will fire him. I know that my honourable friend (Hon. Sir James Loughheed), whom we always look upon as a coming Prime Minister of Canada—I think he will be yet—will stand by what is right, and I have full confidence in him. But let it not be supposed that intelligent men, who have sailed the ocean main and climbed the mountains to the Pacific, will tolerate any tinsel or sham, or will retain a man simply because he is a supporter of the Government and it is expedient to take him in on account of his antecedents or his present condition. I heard some one say that this was the strongest Government that ever existed since Confederation and also the weakest; it is the strongest in votes, but it has not the confidence of the people.

Now, let us see what will come of all this as the year goes on. In the near future we shall have an enormous amount of liabilities to face. That is what is going to hit the people—take the money out of their pockets and bleed them. No matter what sophistry or pleading is used, the question will be asked: "Where did this money go? Could it have been saved? Could any of it have been saved?" No one imagined when we went into this war that it would cost us \$2,000,000,000, but before we are through with it it will have cost more than \$2,000,000,000 and we cannot evade our liability. It is our duty to do whatever may be necessary. I felt from the very first, and I feel to-day, that it would be impossible to contribute the 500,000 men promised in our gush of patriotism and our desire to elevate ourselves before the English and other peoples of the world. Anybody who has read history or understands military affairs can see that this country could not make good its promise to send overseas 500,000 men and keep the country going. There were many obstacles, such as physical disability and liabilities at home which prevented men from going.

S—3½

I desire now to pay a compliment to Sir Sam Hughes. He does not like me and I do not like him; but, while he made mistakes and blunders, he succeeded in bringing an army together more quickly than any other man in Canada could have done. Of course, I do not want to find any fault with the generals we have about us. It is very pleasant to be called a general, although personally I would hate to be called anything but citizen Domville—citoyen. I have too firm a belief in democracy and in the people to think that I should be in any way benefited by some little tuppenny-ha'penny emolument of office. That is my view.

When you go home, all of you, think it over. I am not now talking to the members of the Government. When you go back home you will be asked by your friends: "How are matters going? Have you done such and such a thing?" "Yes." "But have we nothing to say about it?" "No; it is the soldiers' vote; you have nothing to say." The women will run this country. The women will run us. Now, I think it is all very well in a certain respect for the women to run us, but it is not good for the state.

It is not good for the Government to flout the people or to flaunt before them the idea that they can carry on the affairs of this country as they please. They cannot do what they like. They will not be allowed to do what they like, no matter how good their intentions may be. How many members of the present Cabinet will be left in another twelve months? Ministers have come and ministers have gone. You men are brought into the Cabinet who are going to do something, and it does not materialize. There is not much more to be said on the subject except that we must hold the Government of the day, whether it be Liberal or Conservative or mixed, or whatever it may be called, responsible for the conduct of public affairs in the future, particularly militia affairs; and if they ask us to meet the war debt or do anything else, we must do it and back them up, but we must hold them responsible. I want just to emphasize this idea, that the people of the country will not continue to stand by and see such enormities as have been committed. I do not wish to cast any aspersions at anybody, but it is an unfortunate state of affairs to find that the Government is so weak that it cannot carry on the affairs of the country without taking in some Liberals and requiring the women and the soldiers to put them in power. That is not sound and it will not work. It reminds one