

Opinions of Prominent Men

H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada

I am glsd to have this opportunity of meeting the representatives of the Canadian Defence League, and to hear something of the objects of your Association.

These objects, as concisely summed up in the last paragraph of your address, have my full sympathy.

The first essential of military training is the production of a healthy, disciplined manhood, and no thoughtful person could possibly dispute the desirability of this object. Health and discipline are necessary for our daily life and for the successful conduct of business; and an effort to secure them for the rising generation cannot be laid open to the charge of militarism which has sometimes been brought by the ignorant against associations such as yours.

I wish you every success in this work which you have patriotically undertaken and to which you are unselfishly giving your time; and I trust that the Canadian Defence League may long continue to benefit the young men of the Dominion of Canada.

Right Hon. R. L. Borden, M. P.

Canada can not be a hermit nation. Canadian interests will exist and must be protected not only upon the high seas, but in every quarter of the globe. The great Empire of China attempted to isolate herself from the rest of the world, and did so with some measure of success, but the result was not encouraging. To conceive that Canada could play any such part in these days of steam and electricity, when the oceans of the world have ceased to be an impassable barrier and have become magnificent highways, is but an idle dream.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier

I now say to you, without any doubt whatever, we have become a nation. This is the position that we maintain; that each nation is obliged to provide for its national defence; and this position is so strong, so sane and so practical that the only means to combat it is to affirm that we are not a nation.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts

On purely military grounds I believe that universal