

in that direction, will it not, altogether outside of purely professional purposes, be worth while?

"The war was a test of Canadian spirit and strength. These stood that test and developed under it and Canada became conscious that it was not only a national entity but capable of national and international responsibility and should assume it. That consciousness means a quick unfolding and putting forth of its powers. Should that movement be too rapid, reaction will result, a thing devoutly to be avoided. A special duty rests upon our profession both on the Bench and at the Bar, for we are the agents and ministers of the law. By public statute in each of the provinces we have been organized for the service of the people and to that end protected, only however up to the point where our years of preparation for that service may be compensated by a fair living with hard work and not destroyed by filibusters. Further, the people understand that by education and experience we are tenacious of those laws and customs which have been of value in the past and, modified when necessary, are of value in the present, and they look to us as safe and constructive advisers and leaders in national activities. Like Saul of old who when selected King shrank from public service and the pillory of criticism and hid himself among the stuff, so we too fain would there hide ourselves and avoid the citizen's burden of serving the people according to our several ability. Through a general neglect of that service in our country of popular suffrage our people are in imminent danger of the despotism not so much of individuals as of classes, organized on the principle of every one for himself and the de'il take the hindermos., which results as the de'il would have it in his taking all. I am sure many will say all this is didactic and ethical. Those of us who with measured step and slow are moving off the stage appreciate it, but may I persuade the younger members to an acceptance of the call of our nation and of their unprecedented opportunities to help in its government. Let me point to what lawyers have done in serving Canada in municipal, provincial and national politics—using that word in its generous meaning—and without indicating that others are less worthy, to the Prime Ministers from the Bar