

as soon meet the devil, as face the Canadians on the field of battle.

Four hundred thousand men from Canada have gone overseas since this war began. There have been close on to 100,000 casualties since the Canadians have begun to fight at the front, and 30,000 Canadian boys in the strength of their manhood, the very flower of our country, lie buried in so many graves in France and Flanders; graves haloed by their death and glorified by their sufferings. We deeply grieve their loss, but our sorrow is lightened by the knowledge that they fell on the field of honour, fighting for the sacred cause of democracy and freedom. We reverently honour their memory.

The women of this country, since the outbreak of hostilities, have displayed such admirable patriotism, energy and unselfishness in the fields of philanthropy and patriotic work, and in the various spheres of activity formerly occupied by men; on the land, in the factories, in the hospitals, and on the very field of battle, that their invaluable and patriotic endeavours have enlisted the admiration and won the approval of the people of Canada and of the Empire; and, besides, have earned the undying gratitude of thousands of sick and wounded soldiers.

The Canadian surgeons and physicians at the front, and in the hospitals, have done themselves proud in the eyes of the whole world because of their devotion to duty, their spirit of self-sacrifice and all round good work. They have performed their manifold duties and arduous labours in a manner which has called forth the approbation of the British and Allies alike.

Canada has made many sacrifices since this war has begun. The people of this country have endeavoured to honourably discharge their duty for the cause of humanity and civilization, and we must be prepared to go on to the last gun, to the last man, to the last dollar, until militarism and autocracy have been crushed, and this terrific conflict brought to a successful and glorious termination. Let us, the representatives of the Canadian people in this House, consider it our sacred duty under the circumstances, to do all in our power to keep faith with our boys at the front, to labour for the maintenance of a united Canada in order to win the war and to save our beloved country.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Mr. Speaker, as was intimated a few moments ago by my right hon. friend the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden)—and in this I think

he was perfectly correct—it would suit the convenience of both sides of the House if this debate were not prolonged this day. Therefore, I shall not at this moment offer to the House the observations which seem to be called for from His Majesty's loyal Opposition by the speech of His Excellency. But I think I should not wait until to-morrow, that I should not wait a single moment longer, before I tender to both my hon. friend from Parkdale (Mr. Mowat) and my hon. friend from Ottawa (Mr. Chabot) the congratulations of both sides of the House upon the admirable addresses with which they have favoured us. I commend especially the spirit of harmony and union between all the elements in this country which was particularly noticeable in the speech of my hon. friend from Parkdale and also in the observations of my hon. friend from Ottawa. In what these two hon. gentlemen have said there is a great deal with which I can altogether agree and there is very little to which I must take exception. But, unfortunately, there are some things to which I shall have to take exception, and it would suit my own pleasure and convenience better if I deferred until to-morrow the observations which I shall have to offer in criticism of their observations. I therefore now beg to move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

#### INTERNAL ECONOMY COMMISSION.

The right hon. Sir Robert Borden (Prime Minister) presented a message from His Excellency the Governor General approving minute of Council appointing:

The Hon. Martin Burrell, Secretary of State; the Hon. John Dowsley Reid, Minister of Railways and Canals; the Hon. Arthur L. Sifton, Minister of Customs, and the Hon. James A. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as Commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of the Eleventh Chapter of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, intitled: "An Act respecting the House of Commons."

#### SUMMONING OF PARLIAMENT.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: With the consent of the House, I should like to mention to my right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier), with respect to the matter to which he called attention this morning, that my recollection was right as to the terms of the Order in Council which was passed and approved for the purpose