

fight and die. We know that at Langemarck—and this is a fact I call specially to your notice—when the day was desperate, the guns were lost, those who re-took them, re-established the fight, repulsed the Germans to their own trenches and brought victory were our compatriots, the Canadian troops. (Cheers.)

"That day Canadians proved that they know not only how to fight but how to conquer. It is not only from the material point of view that we can help. The moral effect has to be considered.

"Liberty Alone Can Educate."

"It is an undisputed fact that the aim of the Teuton hordes was domination of the world. We have the evidence of official books published by the French Government at the beginning of the War on the immediate causes of the War, which showed that official Germany, even before the War, contemplated the needs of the War and the uses to be made of victory—the object was Teutonic domination of the entire world. There is the German theory; there is the French, also there is the British theory, the theory of liberty, the theory that the only government possible is that which exists by consent of the governed. It is the basis on which stands the British Empire of which we are a part. The German mentality can only find one theory, and the Germans figured that if Britain was attacked, the British Empire would crack, that civil war would imperil the people in some parts and break the unity of the dominions, proving the decadence of the British Empire. What did they see? They saw arrive from all parts of the world British subjects coming to the aid of the mother country, ready to lend their arms and give their lives. They came to protect their cause, the liberty and justice they enjoy. If we were not enjoying this we should not be as loyal as we are. It is a lesson which the Germans should take to heart; they know now that violence can destroy but liberty alone can educate.

The Effect on Canada.

"These are the principal reasons which guided me to take the position I have in regard to this War. You will see that up to now I have spoken of the War merely from the point of view of civilization. What will be the effect for Canada?

"Canada cannot disinterest herself from this. I will go further. I will say this War interests not only the combatants but neutrals without exception. I have said what is the object of Germanic war. I am not of opinion that if Germany were to triumph in this War we should pass under Germanic domination at once. Whatever results from the War, even if Germany were to win, it would mean a prolongation, a recrudescence of militarism that now desolates Europe.

"Germany proposed to govern the world. To triumph in this War she must crush Britain, France, Italy and Russia. If that arrived, if that impossible task were achieved Germany would have her hands on all Europe. Only one power would rest in Europe, Germany; only two powers would remain in the world, Germany and the United States. The two would be face to face, and on what basis?

On a peace basis, after the War. Undoubtedly Germany, exhausted by even victory would not be ready to commence a new war, but as in 1870 she would revive the military spirit from which springs desire for domination of the entire world and the United States herself would be subjected to become a military people, even if all other states of the American continent, Canada included, did not.

Entente Not Yet Complete.

"For a long time," Sir Wilfrid said, "I thought, I hoped, that one day these two great nations, Great Britain and France, would understand one another and that one by its idealism, the other by its practical spirit would join for the common good; and I glory in the fact that I have lived to see the entente cordiale. That entente is not complete; it is perhaps less complete in Canada than in Europe. I am obliged to say that many checks, many misunderstandings, many collisions of interest and sentiment here might be avoided. They who have real patriotism are they who are working for reconciliation, who are helping to sweep away the old divisions, who are working to restore harmony among the people on a basis acceptable by all.

"When our soldiers return from the front, they will possess sovereign authority, more than we have here, to cause the disappearance of discord and to correct differences and to secure recognition of legitimate aims and aspirations.

Call from the Living Dead.

"In this horrible war, thousands of our compatriots have died—in the awful carnage as at Ypres, La Basse, St. Julien and Langemarck. They fell one by the side of the other and now they are resting locked in eternal embrace under the old soil of France. If these differences are to continue, the dead will arise from their graves and cry aloud for truce, exclaiming 'Live as we have died, for liberty, justice and truth.'

"I have given you the reasons which made me take the attitude I took in this War and though I am free to admit that I preferred to fight rather than support the Government, in a case of this kind all other considerations should disappear. To complete my thoughts, so that no one may misunderstand me I will declare that had I been in power I should have followed the same policy myself, though in details of administration, I should have tried to do better. Had we been in power we should not be reproached with faults, errors and the frauds which now hang everywhere. But I will not talk of that in this discussion. I did not come here tonight for that reason. It is not the time to discuss these questions; they will be discussed later, do not fear.

Duties of Liberals.

"What are the rights and duties of the Liberal party? In my opinion, the party should stand for one thing alone, for public good and general interest; its spirit should be such that it can approve or condemn accordingly as the public good and general interest demand condemnation or approbation.

"We maintained that spirit in power, and we maintain it now. When we lost, we were beaten, but we were not subdued."