

action which he would have been the last to countenance or permit.]

[I should like to take this earliest opportunity on behalf of the party which I have the honour to represent and on my own behalf to express to the electors of Lanark, irrespective of party, my sympathy for the loss the constituency has sustained in the death of one who has brought honour to his own name and to those whom he represented in Parliament. I need scarcely say that for Mrs. Stewart in particular the strongest measure of sympathy is felt.

~~The issue - Not Mr. Stewart, ^{good, acceptable of the} but the government's record.~~

[May I now come to the by-election itself and the issues before the citizens of Lanark in this campaign. I assume, it is scarcely necessary for me to say that the by-election in no way relates itself to the name or the memory of the late member, and that you all understand quite clearly that the outcome, whatever it may be, can be considered neither as a reflection upon nor an endorsement of his public career. Were such at all the case, I should have been the first to have counselled against any candidate being placed in the field by the Liberal party, for our parliament cannot have too many men of the character and ability of your late member. The issue is not whether the late Mr. Stewart served his country well, that is admitted, but whether the present government, everything considered, has not so conducted the public business of this country as to be entitled to ask from you

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Speeches-1922 - 1932

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