

Honourable gentlemen, why do we fight? First, permit me to say that we are not "too proud to fight" in this great world struggle. Secondly, our intense love and devotion for peace and all that goes with peace prompt us to fight. Thirdly, it is our conviction that England had a just cause when she went forth to battle in this great war, and we as Canadians have the courage of our convictions. Under those circumstances we find ourselves called upon to make the sacrifices that we are now making, not alone for the independence of Canada or of the Empire to which we belong, not alone for the defence of those liberties that we possess, but, I firmly believe, as I am sure the honourable gentlemen of this House believe, for the liberty of the world—of the smaller as well as the larger nations, of the land and of the sea—for liberty in its purest and best sense. That is why we have pledged our faith, our money and our lives, and have gone forth with the battalions of all the Allies and with those of the diverse parts of this magnificent Empire to which we belong.

The President of the United States has said that we should have peace without victory. Honourable gentlemen of the Senate, the President of the United States, Mr. Wilson, has the privilege of entertaining any set of opinions he sees fit. It was his privilege to be the head of a great college and an instructor of boys growing to manhood; but, upon my sacred honour, when I read the last two or three messages that he sent to the Senate of the United States, and that have been published throughout the wide world, I thought that possibly he had made a mistake when he ceased to instruct the youth and undertook to educate full-grown men and the full-fledged nations of the world.

Peace without victory! In the first place, we are great lovers of peace. It is our inclination to have peace at the earliest possible moment, and I am sure that every honourable gentleman and every citizen of Canada would read gladly and attentively any message appearing in the papers or elsewhere headed by the word "Peace." But we have a right to consider from whence such a message comes and whether Mr. Wilson is an authority upon peace. In the first place, his ideas as to the methods for establishing peace—adopted by himself, not by his predecessors—can be found in his dealings with Mexico; and, if he cannot direct us, who are at war for a righteous cause, with a more certain and absolute knowledge of the arts of making peace than he has shown in the case of

Mexico, we had better look in some other direction to find the method of a doctor who would administer the medicine of peace.

President Wilson speaks of protecting small nations, and says that there should be no trafficking in nations—that their ideas and ideals are as important to them as are those of the greater nations. I agree with him that there should be no trafficking in nations. I have only to direct the attention of this honourable body to the Philippines, and point out that he presides over a nation that has trafficked in small nations, but nations which have not enduring peace even to this time.

Hon. Mr. DENNIS: And only a few days ago he completed the barter and purchase of the Danish West India Islands, and paid for them in so much cold cash.

Hon. Mr. POPE: Yes, they trafficked in them, quite contrary to the splendid phraseology that was used in his message:

No peace can last, or ought to last, which does not recognize and accept the principle that governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed, and that no right anywhere exists to hand peoples about from sovereignty to sovereignty as if they were property.

The hon. gentleman presides over a nation which believes in acquiring what will profit. The nation of which he is the presiding officer participated in a treaty in which were laid down the principle of the protection of the smaller nations, and more particularly the methods of international warfare that would be tolerated by civilized powers. As first magistrate of that great republic, President Wilson knows that it is his bounden duty to read and digest all matters appertaining to public affairs of this kind. He knows that there is not a single article in that code of international law which has not been violated a hundred times by Germany in this conflict. And still he says that these principles shall be the guiding star. No man knows better than the President of the United States that Germany marched upon Belgium before war was declared. Nobody knows better than he that for forty-eight hours Belgium was looking across to see if the relieving arm of old England was coming to the rescue, and that at the end of eight and forty hours it did come, but a handful of veterans who did valiant service after their arrival in France. Nobody knows better than the President of the United States that the womanhood of Belgium and of parts of France has been violated, and that things