

did their duty, and they all did it very well. In peace they will be united.

As far as I am personally concerned, it is not very comfortable or pleasant for me to speak of my own affairs, but I will say this: I am not sorry that I took part in the war, it will always be a pleasure to me, even though I got no honour or glory out of it. You would think to hear some people talk that I had made a million out of the war over there, that I had received a peerage, or title, a V.C., and all that sort of thing. I got nothing, I did not want anything, and I do not want anything. The fact that I have the honour and affection of my men, the fact that the "Original" men of the First Division, last year asked me to lead them in the parade on Yonge street, Toronto, on St. Julien day, does not show there is any great reflection on me. I did not seek glory of any kind; I trust, therefore, that the House has heard the last of that and that no further reference will be made to it.

I want to compliment the member for Skeena (Mr. Peck, V.C.) on being in this House and on having secured meritorious recognition; also the other young men on this side of the House who have fought in the war and have been in the actual zones of combat. I am sorry that more of my old colleagues in the House cannot say that they were in the actual zone of conflict. A great many of them volunteered, put on khaki, raised regiments and took them overseas, and just as they got as far as the front received the same kind of telegram to come home that I got. I do not think that I should have ever got to the field of battle unless by some accident.

Two other members of the House of Commons got to the actual zone of combat. One was Colonel Baker—blessed be his memory. He died in action; no finer man ever wore khaki. I trust that some spot in the new buildings will be found where a monument may be placed to remind future generations of parliamentarians that there were men of red blood in the House of Commons in the days of the Great War.

Then, the member for Ontario, Colonel Sharpe, went to the trenches and would not leave them until his health broke down and he was a complete wreck. He died in Montreal—no wonder, when he spent two years and a half constantly within the sound of the guns, constantly in the midst of that great carnage. It was with great difficulty that he got as far as the front, but he was determined that nothing short of illness or death would take him away, because he, like every other member of this

House, knew that if he did come back, he would—having my case in mind—"have it thrown into him" for all time to come by those who had stayed at home. But he has gone to his reward, and I trust that a place will be found to erect some monument to his memory. No finer comrade in arms could any man have than the late Colonel Sharpe.

I would like to say a word about those young men who have given their lives for their country. They died in order that Canada might be a great country, and here a responsibility rests upon members on both sides of the House. The responsibility is upon us of making this country great; of avoiding selfishness; of seeking to further not our own personal interests, but the interests of our country. These men have died gloriously in the cause of the Empire and, as Rudyard Kipling has said, quoting Ecclesiasticus, "Their names and their memories shall live forevermore." They have died in a great cause. It is a matter of deep regret that matters should be brought up which will cause the heart-strings of their parents and relatives at home to be wrung again. I know what that means, because for two days my own family lived in apprehension, having been informed after the battle of St. Julien that I was missing, that I had been killed.

We should not offer these parents condolence, because the young men of Canada died doing their duty. We may offer our consolation. They will always have the feeling that their sons did their duty and that of all the people of Canada they stand nearer to the heart-strings of our country than any others. Many of these people will send sons to this House; many will come to this House who have served in the war. You may rest assured that these men will do good service for their King and country and that Canada will never suffer by them.

I have heard it said that the country is afraid of the returned soldier. Mr. Speaker, people do not understand the returned soldier. References of a disgraceful character have been made in the press to the riots at this town in Wales. I am not surprised at riots if conditions were such as described to me in a letter from a friend. I know what it is to be up to the knees in mud, I know what it is to be without coal and to have to buy coal and coal oil out of my own pocket in order to keep my men warm. I know what it is to have the sleet and rain beating down and to hear the men coughing, their physical resistance breaking down, so that one could not sleep at night. There are several hundred dead Canadians in the