

racking point—which every member of that staff must have done his duty. The Government and the staff of the department had splendid support from another consideration, which was raised by the Prime Minister, **because the spirit that animated the Government and the spirit that animated the staff of the Militia Department was, and is, I believe, Sir, the spirit of the great majority of right thinking people in this country.**"

### **OUR MAGNIFICENT HERITAGE.**

"There was another thought that came to me, and it was the thought of gratitude, that though we have had this stupendous task thrown suddenly upon our Government, and especially upon the Militia Department, and though our people have had to make sacrifices and share in the carrying of the burden, **yet we have such a magnificent heritage in this country, and our liberties are so protected by the flag under which we live, that none of us within this land has had to go with one meal less, none of us has had to go with any fear as to what is coming to us or coming to the Empire.** I am grateful that I am in that position. I am thankful to the men at the front who are achieving this for us, and this, after all, is the greatest consideration. That is the greatest consideration that was raised in the Prime Minister's speech. We all echoed every sentiment he expressed as he recalled the way Canadians stood in the breach a year ago, and the way they are prepared to stand to-day, and shed the last drop of their blood for the flag, for the Empire, for the world's civilization. **In the presence of these considerations I may be allowed to express a doubt whether the points that have been raised in discussion are calculated to help in the accomplishment of that great task—whether they are not calculated to hinder.** If there had not been grounds for criticism the Government would not have been human. Humanity is fallible."

"It is said that the man who does not make mistakes never makes anything. **If the Government had not gone into this war with the intention of making something, of helping to achieve the victory that we know is coming; if they had not gone into it animated by the spirit that makes for victory, they might not have made mistakes, but they would not have helped much in bringing about that victory.** We are told, "You cannot make omelets without breaking eggs." It is one of the misfortunes of war that it brings greater profits even to the farmers, to the sons who are left at home while the other sons are sacrificing all they have at the front. Mistakes? Of course. And critics? Of course. Said Byron:

"A man must serve his time to every trade  
But censure—critics all are ready made."

### **STANDS BEHIND SIR ROBERT BORDEN.**

"For my part, in such a crisis in the history of our Empire and of the country, as a private individual citizen who happens