

the Government. If we have got along in this House in a harmonious and satisfactory way for some years, I think it is due largely to the good feeling and tact that the honourable gentleman has shown in his important position.

With respect to the honourable gentlemen who moved and seconded the Address to His Excellency, I endorse what has been said by the speakers who have preceded me. The honourable gentleman from Sydney (Hon. Mr. McLennan) talked good sense in graceful English; and the honourable gentleman from Manitou (Hon. Mr. Sharpe) told us in a very distinct and impressive manner things which he had seen for himself, and therefore he knew what he was talking about. I think that these two honourable gentlemen are to be complimented because their remarks were so much to the purpose.

With respect to the Speech of His Excellency, there are just one or two points that I should like to make, apart from those which have been made by honourable gentlemen who have preceded me. The Governor General says:

I desire on this occasion to express my respectful appreciation of the honour conferred on me by the King in appointing me to the distinguished office of Governor General.

Now, I think that the fact that the Duke of Devonshire succeeds His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught makes his appointment a really more important, more desirable, and more honourable one than it would otherwise have been.

With respect to the Duke of Connaught, I quite endorse all the good things that have been said by the honourable the leader of the Opposition and by other honourable gentlemen. I think that some stress might be laid upon the fact that the Duke of Connaught, being here at a critical time, being an experienced soldier and in every way an able man, exercised an influence on the conduct of the war which had a very beneficial effect indeed. These things were not published, but there is no doubt about them.

If we had been asked to select a man to follow the Duke of Connaught, there is, I suppose, hardly a nobleman in England whom we should have chosen in preference to the Duke of Devonshire. The Duke belongs, as has been pointed out already, to a line of very distinguished men—men distinguished for ability and high character; and characteristics of the whole line have been strong common sense, business capacity, and, perhaps above all, independence of

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feeling. A Cavendish was the private secretary of Cardinal Wolsey, and although, at least towards the end, Cavendish did not share the religious belief of the Cardinal, yet after the Cardinal had fallen and was cut of the favour of Henry VIII, when it was a risky thing to say anything in favour of the Cardinal, Cavendish was independent enough and true enough to his old master to write a life of the Cardinal which was particularly friendly; and that sort of independent character has clung to the line ever since: they have always shown themselves constant and trustworthy.

It had occurred to me to say something about the Canadian forces overseas, but the honourable the leader of the Government has anticipated what had so often struck me. If anyone had told us in 1914 that by this time Canada would have sent 300,000 men across the ocean, he would have been looked upon as more or less lacking in intellect. I think it a perfectly wonderful thing.

The next subject that I wish to speak of is one that I do not feel altogether clear about. We are unanimous about nearly everything to-day; we are not in a critical mood; but I must confess that I do not clearly understand what is meant by the organization of National Service, my ideas on that question are hazy. There are a great many people who think that National Service is a preliminary to conscription, I do not think it is; I do not think the case is so urgent as to need a resort to conscription. Then we have the assurance of the right honourable leader of the Government that National Service is not intended as a preliminary to conscription; but unfortunately there are many people throughout the country who are not sufficiently informed on the subject, and who are of the opinion that it really is preliminary to conscription.

It was rather saddening to me to be informed only yesterday that during the past month some 30,000 people had migrated from Canada to the United States, largely due to the dread of conscription. They are very foolish, I think; but I think it only right to call attention to that statement, and I think that every reasonable step should be taken to remove the impression which has undoubtedly been made upon the minds of a good many people.

There is one point which has not been referred to but which I think really does deserve to be considered by the Government as well as by the members of the two Houses. Honourable gentlemen have of course read that recruiting in the Dom-