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# ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE

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## ONTARIO AND THE WAR

### ADDRESS

GIVEN BY  
(Sir) William Howland  
THE HON. W. H. HEARST,  
K.C., M.P.

Prime Minister of Ontario, Canada

On Friday, September 22nd, 1916,  
:: at the Hotel Cecil, London ::

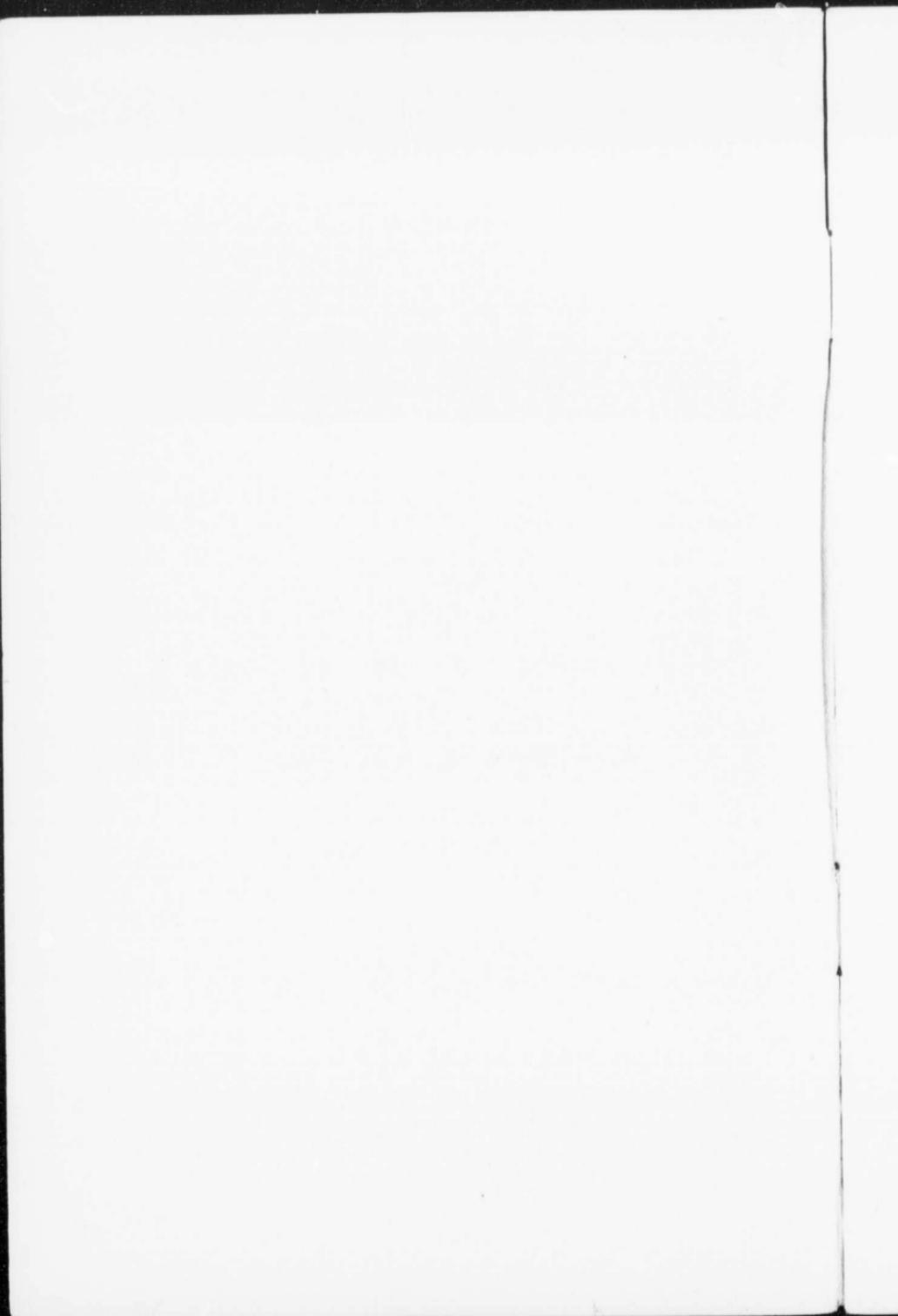


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A. D. STEEL-MAITLAND, Esq., M.P.

(Under Secretary of State for the Colonies)

In the Chair



## ONTARIO AND THE WAR

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THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. D. Steel-Maitland, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies): I need not take up time in introducing Mr. Hearst, the Prime Minister of Ontario. From the very fact that he is Prime Minister of that Province he is sure of an extraordinarily hearty welcome here. I am not even going to refer to his work there, though I think a recent report of a Commission under his government on the matter of emigration is one that really merits the attention of all of us. One other point—another point between him and us. Mr. Hearst, like so many others, has two sons who have been fighting in the Army. One has just been wounded and is on his way across to this country and Mr. Hearst is to meet him this afternoon. I am sure we give him our heartiest sympathy and trust his son will be soon restored to health again. I will ask you to drink to the health of "Our Guest."

After the toast had been enthusiastically honoured, THE HON. W. H. HEARST said: It is difficult even for those of us who have been born in Canada, and have lived there all our lives, to get an adequate idea of the extent of our own territory, and the richness of our natural resources, and I can therefore understand how absolutely impossible it must be for those who have never visited our Western land, or who have only made a flying trip across the Continent, to realise the magnitude and importance of that section of the Empire and the future that undoubtedly lies before it. I am, therefore, going to trouble you to listen to me for a few

moments, while I endeavour to give you some idea—and with the time at my disposal it must be an incomplete one—of the Province of which I have the honour to be Prime Minister.

Ontario has an area of 407,262 square miles, or 260,647,636 acres. It is the second largest Province in the Dominion of Canada, being only exceeded in extent by the Province of Quebec. A better idea of the size of this Province may be gained when I point out that it is eighteen times as large as England, that maintains a population of 30,000,000, three times the size of our enemy Austria, that has a population of 26,000,000, twice the size of our arch-enemy Germany, with a population of 65,000,000, and it is nearly eight times the size of the State of New York, which sustains an immense population of highly prosperous people. Of this immense area, we have only alienated from the Crown a little over 41,000 square miles, leaving in the Crown, still to be disposed of as the Government may see fit for settlement or for development in the way for which it is best adapted, almost 90 per cent. of our entire area.

At the time of the last census, 1911, Ontario had a population of 2,523,274, or 9.67 to the square mile, while Great Britain has a population of 471, Germany 310, France 190, and the United States 33 to the square mile.

Ontario has under cultivation only a little over 13,000,000 acres, or less than 6 per cent. of the entire area. With this comparatively small percentage of its total area cultivated, the agricultural achievements of Ontario are something in which we feel no small degree of pride. The value of our agricultural output is over \$300,000,000 annually, the annual value of our live stock sold or slaughtered is over \$90,000,000, our dairy industry over \$40,000,000, and our fruit and vegetables over \$20,000,000 annually. We have 290,000 acres of orchards, 24,000 acres of small fruits, 11,000 acres of vineyards, and 50,000 acres of gardens. We produce fruit of almost all kinds in abundance, the apples, pears, peaches, grapes, and small fruits of Ontario not being excelled anywhere in the world. The value of Ontario's live stock is over \$251,000,000, our farm buildings over \$348,000,000,

our farm implements over \$92,000,000, and the total assessment of property liable to Municipal taxation is over \$2,000,000,000. The Municipalities annually pay for the maintenance of our schools \$12,500,000, which sum is largely supplemented by Provincial grants. In the fall of 1913, our farmers had on deposit in the Savings Banks \$100,000,000.

From the above it will be seen that farming in all its branches—including grain growing, cattle raising, dairying, fruit and vegetable growing—is carried on most successfully in the Province, and when you stop to consider the extent of our production with our relatively small population, and only 6 per cent. of our land under cultivation, you will readily understand the opportunities there are for those who desire to engage in farming in any of its branches, and be able to understand something of what the immense value of Ontario's agricultural output will be when all her farm and orchard lands are placed under cultivation.

It is true we have large tracts of land holding greater possibilities for timber and minerals than from an agricultural standpoint, but, nevertheless, we have millions upon millions of acres of just as good agricultural land awaiting the advent of the settler as the land already under cultivation; and this land the Government will give free, or at the nominal price of 50 cents an acre, to all desirable classes fitted for this kind of life, who wish to cast their lot with us, and help to develop one of the richest and most favourably situated portions of the Empire. One of the most important agricultural areas awaiting development in Canada is what is known as the Great Clay Belt, to the north of the height of land on the Hudson Bay slope in Ontario. This section, which contains 15 to 20 million acres of excellent clay soil, until recently has been inaccessible by reason of lack of railway transportation. That obstacle has now largely been overcome, and we have the Ontario Government railway, extending from North Bay to Cochrane, 252 miles, and running north and south through the easterly part of this Belt. Then we have the National Transcontinental Railway running east and west through the northern section of this country, traversing good agricultural land

for a distance of 400 miles ; the Canadian Northern Transcontinental line running through the southerly part of this Belt ; and the Algoma Central line running north from Sault Ste. Marie, a splendid and thriving port at the foot of Lake Superior, and connecting with the National Transcontinental line at Hearst, in the very heart of the Great Clay Belt. We have land sufficient to provide homes for millions, and the Government is now particularly studying the question of how we can best assist settlers after the war, and especially ex-soldiers, who may desire to seek homes for themselves in a new country, and who are entitled to the best thought and consideration of the people in every section of the Empire. We have already made provision for furnishing settlers with good seed at cost, and for lending them money at a cheap rate of interest to help in clearing their farms and securing the necessary horses, stock and implements to enable them to proceed advantageously with the work of clearing and cultivating their homesteads. In addition to the Government College and Experimental Farm at Guelph, one of the best agricultural colleges in the world, we are establishing agricultural schools, experimental farms, and experimental plots throughout the newer sections of the Province, so that the settler may be able to secure in the easiest manner possible all necessary information. Added to this, a Government farm-expert is located in every community, who gives the settler the benefit and advantage of expert advice as to the best seeds to sow, the best manner of cultivation, and in other matters in which he may require advice or assistance. In short, the Government of Ontario is ready to do everything reasonable and practicable to assist the settler, and especially the ex-soldier, to make a success in establishing himself in our Province.

But while Ontario is a great agricultural country, that is only one of its many resources, and one of our great advantages as a Province is the diversified character of our resources and occupations. We are fast taking no mean place as a mineral-producing country. One ounce in every seven of the silver that comes from the earth's crust is taken from the cobalt mines of Ontario, and

only two countries in the world—the United States and Mexico—exceed Ontario in silver production. We produce 80 per cent. of the nickel of the world, and Ontario's output of cobalt has driven other sources of supply from the world's markets. We are also fast taking a prominent place as a gold-producing country. The value of our mineral production in 1915 was \$57,856,375, and from present indications this production will be far exceeded in the present year. The rapid growth of this industry is shown by the fact that twelve years ago our total production was less than \$13,000,000. The Cobalt Silver Camp in the last ten years has produced \$122,750,000 in silver, and in 1915 these mines paid dividends aggregating \$4,441,948; and up to the end of 1915 dividends amounting to \$59,660,912 had been paid by this camp. The Porcupine Mines have only been in operation a short time, but up to the end of last year they paid over \$5,000,000 in dividends. And there are millions of acres of mineral lands yet remaining that have never been mapped by a geologist or echoed to the sound of the prospector's pick.

Our timber wealth can scarcely be estimated. We have on Crown Lands alone undisposed-of timber valued at over \$400,000,000, and the value of our annual output of timber is over \$25,000,000. But more important than the lumber trade itself is the advantage our supply of all kinds of timber affords to the manufacturers of the Province. This will be apparent when I point out that Ontario uses in her industries annually lumber and timber valued at \$20,000,000, 82 per cent. of which comes from our own forests. In 1911, the date of our last census, Canada had \$260,000,000 invested in her lumber and timber industries, and these industries paid annually \$40,000,000 in wages to the men engaged in this work; and the Province of Ontario controls over one-third of the whole timber and lumber industry of Canada. We are taking measures to preserve this great national asset, so that it will be a source of wealth and a stimulus to industry for all time to come; and we have about 23,000 square miles in national parks and forest reserves, where we do not permit settlement, and where we guard the timber carefully from fire and other forms

of destruction, and protect the wild life as well, making these reserves breeding grounds and havens for fish, game and animals of all kinds.

The fisheries of Canada are the most important in the world, and although this industry has only been partially developed in our waters, it yields \$3,000,000 annually.

There is one important mineral that we have not yet discovered in paying quantities in Ontario—viz., coal—but a kind Providence has more than compensated us for this by the boundless quantity of white coal, in the shape of hydraulic power, with which it has endowed us, and that use will not exhaust. Not to speak of our great store-house of power at Niagara and upon the other rivers in what we call Old Ontario, we have a richness of power in New Ontario that it is impossible as yet to estimate. To give you some idea of the extent of this important asset, I might point out that in the undeveloped Clay Belt of which I have spoken we have, within a hundred miles of the Transcontinental Railway, on rivers flowing into James' Bay, 2,000,000 horse-power, while in the Western part of the Province we have on the rivers flowing out of Rainy Lake and Lake-of-the-Woods opportunities for power development rivalling Niagara itself; and the rivers flowing south into Lakes Huron and Superior also afford splendid opportunities for power development.

The almost limitless resources of agriculture, timber and mineral wealth, and the incalculable power with which Ontario is blessed, can surely mean only one thing—that in the days to come the Province of Ontario will be one of the great manufacturing centres of the world. But not only is Ontario making gigantic strides in agriculture, in mining, in lumbering, and in fisheries, she is making splendid progress in the industrial world as well. There was an increase of over \$800,000,000 in the moneys invested in our factories in the decade covered by the last census, making the total investment over \$1,000,000,000; and if you will compare the census figures of Canada for the decade 1901-1911 with the census figures of the United States for the decade 1899-1909 with reference to percentage increases, you will find that in the capital employed,

the wages paid, and the articles produced, the increase in Canada was from 62 per cent. to 89 per cent. greater than in the United States ; and you will understand the importance of the Manufacturing Industry in my Province when I tell you that Ontario's factories employ nearly one-half of the capital and labour engaged in the factories of the whole of Canada, and produce nearly one-half of all the goods manufactured in the Dominion.

I have tried to indicate to you in the fewest words possible something of Ontario's extent, resources and progress, and the possibilities the future holds in store for us, and I now want to say something of the attitude of my Province in the present titanic struggle in which the Empire is engaged. From the very outset, the people of Ontario made the conflict their own. Some of the good people of the Motherland speak their thanks to us for what we have done and the assistance that we have rendered, but that is not the rôle we seek to fill. True, if the Mother Country had become involved in war in a matter in which Canada was not immediately and directly concerned, we would nevertheless have gladly come to her aid, that the Union Jack might still continue to wave—the symbol of liberty and freedom throughout the world. As soon as your beacon fires had been lighted on your hilltops, your sons from overseas would have rallied to your aid, the first growl of the Old Lion would have been echoed by the Whelps from Vancouver to Halifax. We recognise that we are part and parcel of the British Empire, no matter what responsibilities that position may involve. But in this struggle something more than the British Empire is involved—the liberty of the world, civilisation itself is at stake. We boast of our progressiveness, our Christianity, our liberty in our new Western land : our very air breathes freedom, and our mountains towering to the sky, our mighty rivers, lakes and forests cry aloud for liberty. Then surely we in that thrice-blessed land of Canada are as vitally interested in the principles that are involved in this fight as the old land or any part of the world, and we recognise that it is as much our duty as yours to make whatever sacrifice may be necessary in order that freedom may not perish from the earth. And had we

not willingly taken up the struggle, we would not have been worthy of the blessings we enjoy to-day, not worthy of the privileges Great Britain has given us, not worthy of our forefathers, who fought and bled and died that we might possess the freedom which is our heritage. I recognise there is much more that my Province might have done, more perhaps that we should have done, but I think I can say without vain boasting that our record is one for which we have no occasion to blush, and one that will not bring shame or dishonour to the race from which we have sprung ; and our desire to-day to do our full duty is greater and more determined than in the past, and our hope and trust is that the Old Lion will not only be encouraged, but rendered invincible by the Whelps in full vigour and strength of youth fighting by his side. To-day we have from the Province of Ontario, under arms, overseas or in training at home, 170,000 men, the very flower and pick of our manhood ; and there is scarcely a home in our land that is not represented in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. It is not for me to say how these men have acquitted themselves, but we at home, at all events, feel that they have brought honour to us and, we trust, honour to the British race. As you all know, military matters do not come in any way under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government, and the conduct of the war, the expense incurred, and all matters relating thereto come under the control of the Dominion Government ; and as the Province of Ontario contributes nearly one-half of the entire revenue of the Dominion, that Province will have to bear a very substantial proportion of the war expenditure. But the Government and people of our Province felt that they wanted to do something more still, so we are raising annually by special levy \$2,000,000 for war purposes. Out of this we have made grants in money and kind to the suffering and destitute people of Belgium and Poland ; we have erected a hospital at Orpington with 1,040 beds, open alike to men from every section of the Empire, and staffed it with the best doctors and nurses these professions afford—and I have been gladdened since I have been over here to see the comfort and happiness this institution is now furnishing to our wounded

heroes, 90 per cent. of the patients up to the present being from parts of the Empire other than Canada. Many of us are too old or otherwise physically unfit to go to the trenches to fight, and our women cannot go to the trenches, although none have worked harder or shown greater patriotism and sacrifice at home than they, but we all, men and women alike, want to be represented at the front. And so we purchased for the Ontario Battalions 500 extra machine guns, paid for by all of the people of Ontario and representing the people irrespective of age and sex ; therefore, while the fight is on, the people of our Province send their note of defiance to the German hordes, spelt out in letters of blood, by means of hundreds of thousands of shots per minute, that the people of this far-off Province, thousands of miles away from the scene of conflict, are in this fight to the last drop of their blood, to the last ounce of their strength, to the last dollar of their money, until German tyranny and Prussian brutality are completely overthrown. But our greatest boast of all is the splendid generosity of our people as exhibited by their freewill offerings to the Patriotic Fund, the Canadian Red Cross Fund, the British Red Cross Fund, and in a hundred different other ways, to help in the struggle.

Before this century has passed away, I believe Canada will have a population as large as that of Great Britain itself. Our natural resources are so great and so rich that capital will come from some quarter of the world to develop them, and in doing so will reap a rich harvest. As a Canadian interested in the progress, prosperity and development of my country, I have no fear but that in due time we will get people to fill our vacant places, and money to develop our resources and build up our great industries ; but as a Briton, as a citizen of the great British Empire, and one anxious above all things to see that Empire take its place in the world that it should, I am concerned about the type of the people that will augment our present population, and the source of the money that will secure control of our resources. It is a great thing to be an Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman or a Welshman—a vastly greater thing than it was before the war. To men born in

the Land of the Maple, breathing from childhood the invigorating air of our mountains, lakes and rivers in that Western Land, it is even a greater thing to be a Canadian, with all the possibilities that lie before us as a people, and it means much more to be a Canadian than it did two years ago ; but it is an infinitely greater thing than all to own citizenship in the great British Empire, destined, I believe, in the future, as in the past, to be the greatest force for righteousness, for progress, and for good citizenship that the world has ever seen. I submit that the motto of you in the Homeland and of us overseas should be that not one drop of blood nor one dollar of money should be lost to the Empire that can be avoided. The British Empire, embracing one-quarter of the world's surface, and including one-quarter of the peoples of the earth, has, nevertheless, only sixty millions of British or allied-British stock to maintain British principles, British ideals, and British traditions among the vast millions that go to make up our population in that unmeasured territory over which the Union Jack floats. Then, surely, every effort should be made to retain our own people and our own money under our own flag. And why should British people leave the Empire ? Why should British gold seek investments in a foreign country ? If a man wants to leave the Old Country to seek his fortune in another part of the world, he can select any quarter of the globe he may desire, any climate he may wish ; he may select any form of free government that appeals to him, and any kind of land or occupation he desires, and still remain under the grand old Union Jack, that has sheltered and protected him in his youth. Such a man may, in short, select any kind of a home that may appeal to him, and the Empire will be none the poorer for his removal ; in fact, in many cases, with new opportunities of advancement that come to him, he may be a greater factor in the building up of the Empire than if he had remained in the Old Land. Then as to capital : I care not what field one may wish to occupy—agriculture, fishing, mining, lumbering, manufacturing, transportation, banking, commerce—you can find no better opportunities than are now awaiting in different sections of the Empire. Look at Canada

to-day, and you find, what?—Our American friends are reaping rich dividends from their industrial and other investments in our country. They are splendid people to do business with, we welcome their capital, and their enterprise; but we would all be the better pleased to know that our rich resources and the benefits to be derived therefrom are going to enrich our own people. Business judgment, patriotism, the future peace of the world—all cry out to keep our people and our money within the Empire. Let us see that the old adage that "Trade follows the flag" is not a myth. If we are but true to ourselves, true to our best interests, true to the great heritage God has given us, before one-half of the present century has passed over our heads the British Empire will be a greater force in the world than we ever dreamed of—not such a force as Germany coveted and longed for, not a force for aggression and terrorism, but, thank God, a force for peace, a force for righteousness, a force for civilisation, a force that will make for peace on earth and good will among men.

But let me make one more point, at the risk of wearying you. Speaking for my own Province of Ontario—and I have some warrant to speak for the people of that Province, if not for any other part of Canada—I can truly say that there is no more British, no more loyal, no more patriotic section of the Empire—no, not even Old London itself. I boast not when I say it, that the soil of France and Flanders to-day is red with the best and noblest blood of our land, and there is scarcely a home in our Province that has not a father, son or loved one fighting with the Colours, or has made the supreme sacrifice for the Cause; but while that is so, I want to point out this fact, that before the war Canada was increasing her population by means of immigration at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum—twice the rate of increase into the United States in any year of her existence. The United States had a population of twenty millions before she was called upon to assimilate as many people as we were receiving before the war. After the war, possibly a still greater flow of emigration will settle in towards Canada than ever before. If that emigration, or a substantial part of it, is British, all well and good; the same loyal

sentiments, the same imperial feeling will continue to actuate our people as actuates them to-day. But if British emigration flows to foreign lands, and foreign people to Canada, how can you expect that we will continue to maintain the spirit of devotion, the spirit of adherence to the Empire that actuates us to-day? Again I say, the protection and future of the Empire, as well as interest and prudence, demand that British blood and British gold should be kept within the Empire.

There is a very old adage, "In time of peace, prepare for war." I am afraid as a nation we somewhat neglected, and neglected to our hurt and cost, to observe that adage. I believe there is another saying, equally true: "In time of war, prepare for peace." We all admit, we of the Overseas Dominions, as well as you of the Homeland, that the supreme task before us is the winning of the present war. Every other aim, object, and desire must be made subordinate to this one supreme object, and nothing should be obtruded upon our minds that might divert us from this task. But, surely, even with the tremendous burden that we have on our minds at the present time, we can afford to give some thought to the future and to the course we should take when the bugle has sounded the last "Cease fire"? Surely enough of the best and richest blood will have been lost by the time the war is over, without permitting a stream to flow to foreign lands, as it did after the South African war. We all admit the great task, the one before which all others sink to insignificance, is to win this war, and the victory must be final and complete. It must not be left to our children or our children's children to fight the battle over again. We of the Overseas, no matter what the cost may be, no matter what the sacrifice in blood and treasure, will not be satisfied that there should be terms of peace on any other basis than that laid down by Premier Asquith at the beginning of the war in words that have already become historic. But next to the winning of the war, to my mind the greatest and most important task before us as Britons is to see that the Empire is welded closer together. The cementing together of the British countries which surround the Globe, and upon which the sun never sets, is a

magnificent task, and, not only in the best interests of the Empire, but of humanity. The perpetuation of the Great British Empire, with all its glory, its history, and its greatness, stands for the liberty of the world, and the betterment of mankind. No such opportunity will ever again present itself for a better and closer organisation of all the different sections of the Empire. The best and bravest from Canada, from Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa lie side by side on the bloody fields of France and Flanders, with the best and bravest of the Old Land. They died for what? For liberty, for freedom, for civilisation; and a common bond—that of suffering, that of sacrifice, that of devotion to a great cause—binds the Empire more firmly than ever before. But we must see to it that advantage is taken of the situation thus created, and no room for doubt left that Britain and her Overseas Dominions shall go down through the ages as one people, as a united family. We of the Overseas Dominions glory in the British Empire, its history, its traditions, and, above all, in what it has done for humanity, and rejoice that we can claim a part in the glory and pride and aims of that Empire that girdles the world; and I trust that you will not think me too presumptuous if I say that I feel that the time has come when we in the West perhaps can contribute something to the strength of the Empire in energy, in vision, in faith in the future, and assist in some way in building a greater and nobler, and a vaster Empire than even that of the past. We all know that the land is the great breeding place of the people. Agriculture is essential to the best life of the nation—morally, physically, intellectually, and in every other way. After the war is over, we will have millions of men who, by outdoor life, training with tools and implements in the trenches, and through other means, will be specially adapted for agricultural pursuits. We in Ontario have millions upon millions of acres of rich agricultural land awaiting settlement and cultivation. We will hold out a welcome to the ex-soldier who desires to come to us, to go upon the land, and help him to make a success so far as it is reasonable and practicable for us to do so. But that cannot be done as successfully as it ought without help and

co-operation from this side, and my Government is prepared to co-operate with the British Government or any proper organisation that takes the matter up ; and we have been much interested by the splendid report on this subject by your special and able Commissioner, Sir Rider Haggard. As you know, this question has been the subject of consideration by a Commission appointed by my Government, and I am pleased and honoured to note that the Report of that Commission has met with the approval of the Royal Colonial Institute, particularly that part in which the organisation of an Imperial Migration Board is suggested ; and I desire to extend my congratulations to the Royal Colonial Institute for the splendid lead they are giving in this important matter, and to assure them of my sympathy and hearty co-operation. Notwithstanding the dark times through which we are passing and the clouds that hang so heavily o'er us, feelings of hope and courage stir my breast as a Canadian when I seek to look into my country's future. The grounds for these feelings are, I am confident, strong, abundant and sure. A land full to repletion with raw materials for the arts and industries, and with agricultural possibilities unsurpassed ; a land of splendid waterways and majestic rivers, furnishing limitless power to light and heat our homes and turn the wheels of commerce ; with railway and canal systems, which although only in their infancy are nevertheless already the admiration of the world ; a land half-way between Europe and the Orient, compelling trade with both ; a northern yet temperate climate, maturing the best qualities of fruits, grain, animals and vegetables, and developing the highest and best types of mankind ; a people seeking quarrels with none and determined on peace, but who, nevertheless, when the testing time came, did not shrink from any sacrifice demanded of us for national weal and national honour and the civilisation of the world ; a people whose ideals close in truth, righteousness and the common good ; a people determined to make the northern half of the North American continent the home of a freer, nobler, higher type of civilisation than has yet flourished.

Canada has many problems to solve and many difficulties to

overcome, and dangers to shun, but happily none that will not yield to a wise, patriotic citizenship and an enlightened statesmanship. If there be no faltering on our part, no debasement of motive, and if we are but worthy of our forefathers and the country in which we live, Canada cannot fail to write her name high up upon the scroll of nations of the world, and to fill the twentieth century with a glory of achievement. But great as my love for my native Province is, great as is my belief and hope in the future, I have a greater desire still for the future success, greatness and prosperity of the Empire as a whole. The secret of the great success of the British Empire in the past has been in the fact that her sons and daughters have not been afraid to go forth from the Motherland and seek new homes across the sea ; and so it will continue to be in the future.

We are at a crucial time in the history of the Empire, and one that calls for thought, consideration and co-operation from every part and section of the Empire to ensure that our future may be what I believe God has intended it should be.

This visit to England has been a source of great pleasure and satisfaction to me. I have learned of the splendid determination and spirit of the people of the Old Land better than I could have done in any other way. I will go back with a message of courage and hope to the people of my Province, and I am fully convinced that the British bulldog now has his death-grip on the damnable Hun, and will never let go until his work is done. I recognise the splendid courage of the people here, and the work they are doing. I recognise also that the fight is not yet over, the victory not yet won ; and while we in Ontario feel we have done something, I know there is much more that we can and will yet do, and that the call to duty and sacrifice rings with greater force and insistence throughout the land than ever before. I fully believe, however, that the Canadian people will measure up to what is required of them, and make whatever sacrifices and perform whatever duties that may fall to their lot. I am confident our people will in the future, as they have up to the present, prove themselves worthy of the race from which they have sprung, the Empire of which they

form a part, the splendid men who are pouring out their blood upon a foreign soil for them, and play their part, whatever that part may be, nobly and well. And I have faith to believe and courage to hope that when the Last Post is sounded over the grave of the final victim of this cruel war, and the forces of righteousness have won a final and triumphant victory, the people of Canada will be able to look back with pride on the part they played in the greatest struggle of the ages.

THE CHAIRMAN : I am sure no words of mine are required to testify to our appreciation of the address which Mr. Hearst has just delivered or, fine as that address was, to testify to what is even finer—the spirit both of himself and of his Province which that address portrayed. There is one thing which I am sure none of us need to be told, and that is, whether we belong to Canada or any other part of the King's Dominions, that we are determined not to cry halt in this war until it is made quite plain that the enemy will be given no opportunity of creating another war of the same kind. There is, however, one mistake which we in this country sometimes make. I have heard one or two of my own friends talk of the Dominions coming to the help of this country. This quarrel is not the quarrel of Great Britain and Ireland. It is the quarrel of all of us. It is just as much the fight of Canada, Australia, and the other Dominions, as the fight of Great Britain, and we are all in it together. It is the quarrel of all of us, as members of the Empire as a whole.

I was glad to hear Mr. Hearst stating the facts as he did with regard to Ontario, because those of us who are Imperialists must recognise the fact that this is not a time merely for stating somewhat vaguely our Imperial aspirations. Let us keep up sentiment by all means—let us keep the steam going, but more than that is now required. We have got to go into the solid and business-like work of carrying those aspirations into effect. We want, as always, a stimulus, and we could not get a better stimulus than Mr. Hearst's speech. But, given the stimulus, we have got to go beyond the work of the prophet to the work of the

business man in making the aspirations of the prophet materialise in hard concrete fact. It appears to me that when this war is over the task before this British Empire of ours will be very difficult. Germany has given us the spectacle of a central bureaucratic autocracy organising its people in domestic matters for business and commerce and in international matters for diplomacy and war. It has organised them—do not let us underrate our enemy in this respect—with quite uncommon skill and ability. Now we have got a much harder task. We have got to see that a democratic people shall be able to organise itself with the same efficiency as an autocracy organises in Germany. Each of us in our own Dominions has to organise our internal affairs and our industrial relationships, so that nobody can say of us that we have gone through a great war simply in order to have the same internal struggles and squabbles over again. We have also to organise our inter-Imperial relations, and we have to do what I believe no democracy has properly done up to now—to bring a real understanding and judgment to bear on international relations and international problems.

Mr. Hearst has referred to emigration. It was, he said, no longer a question for private individuals but for governments, and I quite agree. It is, of course, going to be a matter of very considerable difficulty, and what I often find in political life is I fancy true elsewhere—that sometimes people with enthusiasm won't face the hard facts, and that people who can face the facts have not always got the necessary enthusiasm. We have to combine the two. In the first place no one can say with precision what the state of affairs is going to be at the end of the war. It seems, however, whatever the care with which we may strive to adjust matters, as though there must be some period of dislocation, of a greater or less degree, during which vast numbers of men will be thrown upon and gradually re-absorbed by the labour market, to be followed probably by a demand for labour, perhaps as great as there has been at any time during the past two or three decades. No one would be rash enough to prophesy, but we must all estimate possibilities, and such a forecast seems at least

possible. It is also likely that many men who have previously been accustomed to the counting-house and the desk and the bench and have since had experience of open-air life will not want to go back to their old occupations. It seems not unlikely also that just while there is a period of dislocation here there may be a period of dislocation in the Dominions, for they cannot send across the ocean these magnificent contingents without having their own difficulties in re-absorbing them. Similarly, of course, even the question of the transport of such men across the water must not be neglected. At the same time I think there is no question that one way or another men will be wanting to go to the Dominions, and the question therefore has got to be taken in hand and worked out carefully. It presents many features, and three have always struck me as being of almost special importance. The first is that for emigration to be successful there must be thorough goodwill in welcoming the men in the land to which they wish to go. I am sure from what we have heard from Mr. Hearst, so far as he voices the opinion of a great Province of Canada, that that first pre-requisite is satisfied in abundance. There is the second, about which again there is no difficulty in Canada. It is not only necessary to have a certain number of acres of land which can be placed at the disposal of the emigrant, but, obviously, the land must be suitable and capable of being worked at a profit, otherwise there is no business in the proposition at all. All that we take for granted. But there is another point worthy of consideration. Canada has been a great country for knowing how far wheat can be acclimatised, just as in Scotland we know how sheep are acclimatised in different districts. But men need to be acclimatised just as much as animals or vegetable products—in other words, one of the really great problems is so to acclimatise men in Canada or elsewhere that they may be a success. I can quite picture to myself men with sterling qualities—men who are willing to take the rough with the smooth, who have good muscles and good spirit and good will, who might if they had experience make quite first-class settlers on the land. They may not have come from the land at all—miners from

Durham or Northumberland, say, so many of whom have gone to the war—and yet they might “make good” if acclimatised. Those first few months are absolutely vital in determining whether they will find their feet or not. Give them the opportunity by training or in some other way; give them the chance of finding their feet and picking up the necessary minimum of experience, and then you may get the type of person you want to people a country. That seems to me one of the first and requisite essentials of all, and that is one of the problems for which a solution must be found. One more requisite—ordinarily neglected, but just as important—is this: that we are far too inclined to think the problem of emigration is concerned only with men, whereas the emigration of women is most important.

I will not trespass further on your time, but will only say again that it is not only a pleasure but an inspiration to us to know that others of our own fellow-subjects of the King are over here and are filled with precisely the same feelings that animate us, and can utter them with the force and sincerity which Mr. Hearst has shown this afternoon. I am quite sure also that, just as all of us are absolutely determined to see this war through to a finish, so, when we have seen it through, if we face the future as we ought and solve these problems successfully, even all the miserable evil of this war will thus be overruled by Providence for the good of our children and our country in the future.



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