

Masonry stands for Peace, not War

On resuming, the Grand Representatives' roll was called, Past Grand High Priest Frank Bell answering for Canada, and one of his colleagues, M. E. Comp. Henry W. Miles, responding for his twenty-six Companion Representatives lined up to receive Nevada's greeting. Although at that date the tocsin had not sounded, his words, in part, were prophetic of approaching direful events:

"In the age of militarism; of nations groaning beneath the burdens of wars past, and preparation for wars yet to be; millions of their young men withdrawn from productive industry, shut up in armed camps, or floating fortresses; when Powder Trusts, Armor-plate Syndicates, and captains of industry, seeking government contracts, strive to kindle the fires of a spurious patriotism, and instil hatred into our minds against our fellowman, simply because he speaks a foreign tongue, we, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Grand Representatives accredited to this Grand Chapter from the Grand Chapters of the North, the South, the East, and the West, say to you, and we believe we speak the word of authority, that Masonry stands for Peace, not War; for conservation of human life, not its destruction; for the world-wide patriotism that consists in unceasing effort having for its object to make the world a better place in which to live."

Sources:

Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada at the annual convocation, 1915 report on Foreign Correspondence - NEVADA