

the fact that the year 1943 marked a favourable turning-point for the united nations. He has praised the courage of the allied soldiers and extolled the valour of our armed forces overseas. I join him in paying tribute to our sailors, our airmen, our soldiers; they bring glory to Canada. After Vimy, Dieppe will add to the history of this war a chapter of gallantry worthy of my country's traditions.

The war is still going on. The speech from the throne, apart from reminding us of its stark reality, intimates that the Canadian people must keep up their efforts, and generously provide the united nations, as they have done in the past, with great quantities of arms, munitions and war supplies. But war will end one day, and already the government are heralding a programme of social security meant to offset the unavoidable consequences of post-war readjustment. While prepared to support all measures that will endeavour, through a charter of social security to protect the lowly and the weak in all emergencies, I nevertheless have serious fears and deep feelings of hesitation as regards some expenditures which to my mind are out of proportion with our resources and often detrimental to our own defence. Accordingly, while wishing to make some remarks of a general character, I reserve the privilege to advance some other particular considerations when the legislation forecast in the speech from the throne comes up for discussion in this parliament.

The present conflict, Mr. Speaker, has imposed on our people great sacrifices which I need not review. This war, brought about by ambition, pride, and lust for domination, has engulfed Canada which, remote as it is from Europe was in 1939 less concerned with overseas quarrels than with pursuing in peace, on this American continent, its forward march. It does not behoove me to analyse at this time the reasons which have brought about our participation. One fact is outstanding: we are in this war, and we will remain in it to the end. Our population has accepted every restriction and sacrifice; it has shown its willingness to bear a heavy burden of taxes. It has accepted these restrictions, sacrifices and taxes, and will continue to do so with a patriotic spirit provided the war occasions as few abuses as possible.

Far be it that I should at this time, through a criticism which to some will seem carping in spite of its sincerity, be unfair to the government. During the last three years they have been confronted by perplexing problems, by numerous situations which were both difficult and complicated, by the imperious need of meeting uncontrolled circumstances which

often became uncontrollable. The Right Hon. Prime Minister has fulfilled his duties—I believe we all are agreed on that point—with a devotion that enhances his political fame; he has been on a level with the great parliamentarians of the modern world and the prestige he enjoys in the United States will receive special recognition in the history of the present war.

I am pleased to witness this closer association of Canada and the United States. To my mind, it presages for America, a marked advantage in the solving of post-war problems. The American nation on the other hand, has copied a number of our legislations. Canada, together with the United States, has endeavoured to restrain the egotism and slave-driving ambitions of war profiteers. Certain measures have been adopted which although not perfect have, in many fields, if not cured every evil, at least mitigated the effects of an inflation which could easily have become uncontrollable. Limitless restrictions have been imposed on our people, some were doubtless warranted, others may not have been absolutely necessary, but they were all willingly accepted by the people of this country who considered that they were still preferable to the horrors of bombardment and war. Huge gifts were handed, mostly to Great Britain, gifts that have helped the allied cause to a great extent, but that have appeared exaggerated to many, when the small population and inadequate defence of the country were taken into account. In spite of the wide powers granted the government in the field of enlistment, the voluntary system is still maintained as the sole method of reinforcing our armies overseas. The selective service authorities have just recently stated that a redistribution of man-power was under consideration. The recruiting of men for the armed forces is of paramount importance; however, what good would be the largest armies without a sufficient number of hands on the home front to manufacture modern weapons and draw from the soil the food necessary for the physical welfare of the nation.

I stated a few moments ago that war should not become a pretext for misuse of authority. In war time, nothing is more detrimental to morale, to sound cooperation between the administration and the administered, to good will and voluntary efforts than the misuse of authority in military affairs. Of course, war entails certain inconveniences and tremendous sacrifices and expenses and these very conditions must forbid every abuse. For my part, I believe it is dangerous to inaugurate bureaucracy even in war time, for it is raising a state within the state, which, with time, may