

men and women lived there as happy neighbours. The children laughed and played on the streets. Then the German conquerors came. The men were forced to do what they were told to do. The women had scanty supplies of food for their tables. Worship in the churches and teaching in the schools were interfered with. And then, on a road which did not even lead into this village, two men were mortally wounded. The gestapo stepped in. They claimed that a radio had been found and that the people of that village wanted their freedom, and so a terrible vengeance was visited upon them. Their buildings were levelled to the ground, the men were shot, and callously thrown into common graves, and the women and children were carried off to we know not what. That is an example of what is being inflicted upon people in countries overrun by our ruthless enemy.

One other inconvenience we have to put up with is the high income tax, but I am sure that those who can pay that tax do not begrudge it. The single man who earns \$3,000 must pay a tax of \$668; he who earns \$5,000 must pay \$2,128, he who earns \$10,000 pays \$5,122, and so on until we reach the higher brackets, where ninety-two per cent of revenue or income is taken, for this one tax alone.

The great, outstanding issue before the people of Canada to-day, the issue which transcends all others, and toward which we must direct our thoughts is the winning of the war. With the cooperation of the civilian population, the strategy of those in command and the courage of the troops this war will be won. Right will triumph over the hordes who claim that might is all important. Some day the war will end. Unfortunately some of the warriors will not return, while others will come back maimed and suffering revolting disabilities. We hope and trust many will return to Canada to a better civilian state of affairs than the world has ever known. I believe the people of this country and the members of the House of Commons are, like the people of New Zealand, determined that in so far as possible no one will lose for having gone to the war, and no one will gain from having stayed at home.

I believe it is the fixed desire and the firm resolution of the people to see to it that never again shall there be widespread unemployment, such as we endured in the thirties. It is their firm desire that there shall be equal opportunity for adults and children of all classes, and that the four freedoms written into the Atlantic charter will be realized and become a great blessing to mankind. These

[Mr. Gershaw.]

things are not beyond the realm of possibility. The road to them may be hard and rough, but we must lift our eyes from the plains on which we tread, and look to the hills; because it is not beyond human ability to reach that condition of affairs.

Some one has said: How can it be done? How can this bright picture be realized? I say it can be done by the energy, ability and inventive genius of the Canadian people, guided and directed by the leaders in power at the present time. I say this because a similar and perhaps greater Canadian accomplishment is being unfolded before the eyes of the world, an accomplishment which has received the unstinted praise of Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt. I speak of the Canadian war activity.

For example, consider the situation as regards the navy. Starting with fifteen ships and 1,774 men, the navy has grown until it now has 500 ships and more than 40,000 men and officers. They have patrolled our irregular coast-line; they have defended our shores; they have convoyed thousands of ships bearing vital war supplies to the mother country; they have fought on all the seven seas, side by side with ships of the British navy. It has been the greatest naval accomplishment in all history.

All of us are thrilled by the heroic flights of Canadian-trained airmen over Germany. If we were to study the accomplishments of the army and the air force we would find a similar expansion. We would find that these branches are worthy of a great tribute, and their expansion can be placed to the credit of the three ministers of defence in this government.

At times both in the country and in the house the price-ceiling regulations have been criticized. But it becomes more and more clear that those regulations are working out successfully, and that they have been a great help to the Canadian people. Our regulations constitute a model which has been copied by other countries, and those who were pioneers in producing this measure have the satisfaction of knowing they have made a great contribution.

The success of price regulation measures, and the outstanding success of victory loan drives are indications that the people of Canada have confidence in the ability and sincerity, and in the firmness of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilesley). Then, the technical knowledge and managerial ability of the Minister of Munitions and Supply (Mr. Howe) have been a great help to Canada, enabling this country to build up an organization which