

my words to those the Prime Minister has put into the mouth of his excellency, that our king and queen will certainly receive from every part of Canada and from all groups in this country a most hearty welcome when they visit this great dominion.

In regard to our friendship for the United States, which is referred to in the next paragraph, I believe it is true that next to the empire all of us in Canada feel an exceedingly deep friendship for the great republic to the south. I heartily endorse that part of the speech in which reference is made to the friendship of Canadians for the people of the United States.

Then there is reference to the rejoicing at the peace brought about by the work of Prime Minister Chamberlain and Premier Daladier in September last. Certainly all sane people in the empire appreciate the magnificent work that was done by these men in keeping the peace of the world. It seems to me that only a madman would want war in a world such as we have to-day, with the possibilities of destruction that exist.

Coming to the next item, the question of defence, the government says that Canada's defences must be materially strengthened. With that statement I certainly will not quarrel. I say most sincerely that I believe, and all thinking Canadians must believe and realize, that under conditions as they exist at present, when there are men who seem bent on destroying democracy and on controlling the world, Canada cannot alone be without defences. Especially when you think of the dictators and of the threats they have made and are making almost daily, when you have in mind our huge area, rich resources and sparse population, you realize that Canada would be a very choice morsel for any of the dictators. Some time ago I made it my business to make a comparison of certain geographical areas, and I found, as I had expected, that the area of Germany, Italy and Japan, the three chief dictator nations of to-day, taken together, is just a little greater than that of the province of Ontario; yet in those three dictatorships they have just under two hundred million people, while in Ontario we have less than four million. I do not think any further words of mine could make clearer the significance of that comparison. And nothing I could say would demonstrate more fully the need of a proper defence system. Many authorities on air fighting, of whom I do not claim to be one, have expressed the opinion on several occasions recently that Canada and the United States, this whole continent of America, north and south, are in danger

from the air. While I profess no expert knowledge of the matter, personally I think those experts are probably right. For these reasons I wholly endorse the idea that we should have in this country a proper defence system.

I am now going to suggest something which in these remarks will be perhaps the first monkey wrench that I throw into the machinery, and it is this. If some of the right hon. gentleman's lieutenants from the province of Quebec had not been so assiduous in years gone by in preaching to the people of that province the doctrine that this party was the militaristic party because we believed in a certain amount of defence, about half of what we have to-day—if they had not been so assiduous in that regard they would not to-day find it so difficult to remove the prejudice which they built up in regard to defence.

The next paragraph with which I shall deal is that relating to the defence purchasing board. I am more or less in accord with the idea of a defence purchasing board, but before commending it completely I should like to know its personnel; I should like to know for example that it is not going to be a political purchasing board, that it will not be a case of picking one man and ignoring all others in regard to competition, picking a man and financing him while he runs around the world getting ideas about defence and then giving him the contract without permitting anyone else to tender. I should like to know that, before I unqualifiedly endorse the idea. But as a Canadian citizen who for a long time has been familiar with public opinion I am convinced that the making of large profits from the manufacture of munitions or armaments is repugnant to the ideals of the Canadian people, whether such profits be made directly through a percentage of the amount of the contract, or by selling stock, or in any other way. The making of huge profits on munitions is looked upon by many of our people as taking blood money, as profiteering in patriotism. Some time ago I expressed this view, and I am going to read from a statement which I made in Toronto to a non-political group, the Canadian Commercial Travelers' Association, on December 16 last, just a month ago to-day. In fact I had made the same statement with almost no modifications about two months earlier before the Kiwanis Club in London, during the by-election in that city. I read it because it is exactly as I gave it to the Canadian press, and it expresses my opinion perhaps better and more concisely than I could state it in these remarks. I am quoted as follows:

"All arms and munitions needed for the direct defence of Canada should either be