

that the cause of the Allies was just. And Great Britain having entered the war, Canada at once intimated—as all parts of the Empire similarly intimated—that we would send our forces forward. Great Britain was threatened; the Empire was threatened; Canada was threatened; and this House of Parliament in August, 1914, without a dissenting voice, concurred in the proposal of the Government, that we should use all our available forces for the prosecution of the war. My hon. friend (Mr. DuTremblay) seemed to suggest that Great Britain had rather leaned upon Canada in the war, and that we might have some right to claim from her some special consideration because we had gone in to help her. If I understand my hon. friend rightly with regard to that, I do not agree with him; and I should like to point out to him and to the House, that of all the nations that have been in this war—and I do not overlook the supreme effort of France—of all the nations, the very shield and buckler, as I said in the debate on the Address, of allied defence against Germany have been the Army and Navy of Great Britain, and her inexhaustible resources of money which she poured out without stint until the war was won. The British Navy alone did not win the war; but the war could not have been won without the British Navy. We have made great sacrifices; but I ask my hon. friend, if he can find time to do so, to consider the sacrifices which Great Britain has made in this war. I ask him to take the population of Great Britain and consider the number of men that she sent to the front, and the number she had on the seas. I ask him to look into the question of her expenditures of money per head of population and compare them with ours, or with those of any other nation, and he will be prouder—I know he is proud to-day—he will be prouder than ever before that he is a citizen of the Empire that has at its head a nation such as Great Britain. Now, my hon. friend has spoken of indemnity. He no doubt means, by that, re-imbusement for the expenditures which have been made by Canada as a nation through her Government in the conduct of this war.

There is another phase of the matter; I believe it is usually called reparation. The situation in Europe is that Belgium was overrun in violation of national law and the rights guaranteed her by the treaty to which Germany was a signatory; Belgium was made a victim of unlawful warfare and her people suffered terribly. Her towns and cities were destroyed, her countryside

was ravaged, the property of her citizens was stolen from them and sent to Germany, and many of their industrial plants destroyed, or removed. The same may be said with regard to the northern part of France. The French people also suffered terribly during the German occupation. Apart from the suffering inflicted upon them personally by the Germans and the atrocities to which they were subjected, the money loss was enormous in the villages and towns and cities which were destroyed. The same will apply to other countries (including of course Great Britain) where the nationals have suffered special loss by reason of the unlawful warfare of the Germans. Claims will be put forward by the respective nations for reparation as distinguished from indemnity. Whether such reparation will be made a first charge upon the amount which Germany and her allies will pay, I am not prepared to say; but I should think it probable. That however is a matter for the Peace Conference to determine. I have pointed out that Canada also has a claim for reparation owing to the damage done to property of our nationals through unlawful methods of warfare, and that claim has been put forward and will be pressed.

Now, with regard to my hon. friend's resolution, it is I think inadvisable that this Parliament should put itself on record as the resolution proposes; and therefore, I hope my hon. friend if he agrees with what I say, will withdraw his resolution. The representatives of the various nations, consisting of the ablest statesmen in the world, are giving consideration to this, among other questions, in the settlement which is under consideration at Paris to-day. It is the most momentous conference in the history of the world. It is concerned with the question of the recasting of boundaries, the grouping of nationalities, the determination of modes of government, the amounts, as I have stated, which Germany and her allies can pay to the nations which opposed and defeated her. All these questions are now under consideration at that Peace Conference. It would, I think, be embarrassing—I had almost said improper,—for any Parliament whose representatives are there to pass a resolution, necessarily without the full knowledge which those representatives have, and which might have the effect of fettering or binding them in respect to their decisions. I think this Parliament may well rest assured that the deliberations at the Peace Conference are in very able hands and that