

America there may at least be the seeds left from which we can try to start a new civilization along better lines.

I take my place with the children. I know it seems very foolish, but as I talked the other day with a young woman whose proposed marriage was about to be postponed because her prospective husband might be called to the colours—he was a Canadian-born German and would have to fight his German cousins over there—I thought that for her the possibilities of life were fading away. Again I recall a talk the other day in my own city of Winnipeg to a group of young men who came to see me, some of whom have been unemployed for months past, who were wondering whether they should jump at this opportunity of getting a job. I do not care whether you think me an impossible idealist or a dangerous crank, I am going to take my place beside the children and those young people, because it is only as we adopt new policies that this world will be at all a livable place for our children who follow us. We laud the courage of those who go to the front; yes, I have boys of my own, and I hope they are not cowards, but if any one of those boys, not from cowardice but really through belief, is willing to take his stand on this matter and, if necessary, to face a concentration camp or a firing squad, I shall be more proud of that boy than if he enlisted for the war.

Mr. TUSTIN: Shame!

Mr. WOODSWORTH: The hon. member can say "shame," but that is my belief, and it is the belief of a growing number of Canadians. I said I wanted to state my conviction. Now you can hammer me as much as you like. I must thank the house for the great courtesy shown me. I rejoice that it is possible to say these things in a Canadian parliament under British institutions. It would not be possible in Germany, I recognize that, but it is possible here; and I want to maintain the very essence of our British institutions of real liberty. I believe that the only way to do it is by an appeal to the moral forces which are still resident among our people, and not by another resort to brute force.

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, in this time of great peril, anxiety and confusion, I rise as a plain common man, representing plain common people such as have always borne the burden of suffering and bitterness of war. It becomes my unpleasant duty to share the responsibility for the fateful decisions that Canada shall make regarding the outbreak of another war.

Before proceeding, I should like to express admiration for the hon. member for Winnipeg

North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth). He has honestly, frankly and sincerely stated the other side of this picture, a dark and seamy side. But my experience in life has taught me that there is a dark and seamy side to almost every problem. The arguments on one side seem to be almost as strong as those on the other side, but we must choose the one which seems to us to be in the best interests ultimately of mankind.

It is true, perhaps, that we British are greatly responsible; I do not doubt that for a moment, or wish to confute the argument of the hon. member. But what shall we do about it? We cannot solve the problem by lying down. Hitler has proved himself a ruthless world conqueror both in power and in will. We must think up, not down.

Great Britain's very existence is threatened; so also is the existence of all British peoples and of the peoples immediately associated with us. I believe in the British people, I look with astonishment on their miraculous history. I look with almost abject awe upon the bountiful heritage which has been placed in our hands by those who have gone before. I cannot escape the conviction, sir, that there is for this people and those associated with them a great mission to perform, a great goal to achieve. We may have sinned; I do not say we have not, but there is in us a great capacity for repentance. I cannot escape the conviction that through it all we are working out a great purpose which perhaps will not be far removed from the beautiful ideals which inspire the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

The British and their associates must stand together or fall together. There is in my mind no doubt concerning that statement; I believe there is no middle way. It is for us as Canadians to do our utmost to help them stand together. This Social Credit group, now in Canada identified with New Democracy, has committed itself to the unqualified support of Britain and her allies. We therefore stand for the effective cooperation of Canada at the side of Britain. Christianity, democracy, and the right of nations to exist, are all at stake. If Hitler wins, all these three realities, to Canadians dear as life itself, will cease to be among men. When my group first entered parliament, it offered the government maximum cooperation whenever in our opinion the government was pursuing sound policies. We now promise the government our unanimous and unswerving support so long as the policies of the government appear to us to be best calculated to serve Canada and the empire.

The keynote of Canada's efforts must be efficiency and effectiveness. We must make