

army. Should we not alter our policy with respect to retaining the trainees in uniform? In any event, in the light of orders which have recently gone out to the divisional boards, orders which were reported in the papers the other day, it seems to me that there are a lot of scrambled eggs which should be unscrambled.

In other words, I am asking the government to give instructions to reconsider the call-up of this drafted army. Send back to the farms many of these young men who should be on the farms, because in my judgment their contribution to the war effort of Canada can be better performed on the farm than by standing in a defence army in uniform.

To change the picture, may I say that Canada has passed through an industrial revolution in the last two years. Among the nations of the world her record stands out in shining relief. I believe that when history is written of this particular period it will refer to certain characters who are at present on the very active stage in the government of this country. If I were inclined to look into the unwritten pages of history, I believe I could visualize the names which would appear on those pages. I could see the name of Clarence D. Howe, the miracle man of this period, the man who has transformed the economic life of this nation in the last two years, a man of energy, a man of genius, a man of foresight, a man of decision, the man who turned Canada into an arsenal for our allies, as well as for our own fighting forces—a man to whom this country owes a very great debt of gratitude. It is a remarkable contribution, sir, to think that in two short years we have become so industrialized that we require to-day only one-third of the war equipment manufactured in Canada for our own fighting forces both in Canada and abroad, and that we can contribute the other two-thirds of that equipment to the armies of the united nations. To-day Canadian equipment is fighting on every front, wherever the war is being waged. I believe history will not be backward in giving credit for this remarkable contribution to our Minister of Munitions and Supply (Mr. Howe).

If I were to gaze again at the pages of history and try to conceive what will yet be written therein, I would see another character. Every time I think of this subject, that other character comes to my mind in a quaint sort of way. I see a Hindu wizard sitting on a carpet on the ground, lighting a match, the flame leaping to the heavens, enlarging and extending until it covers the whole of the firmament. That character of the Hindu wizard takes form and shape in my mind, and

I believe history will record that the wizard of this period has been C. G. Power. To my mind, he is the figure who lit the small match, who gave birth to the small flame which enveloped the skies, and became a leading part in the direction and the activity of the war effort of Canada. The commonwealth air training scheme was his responsibility, and I believe history will call him the wizard of this incomparable and unique period in our history.

Turning again to the speech of the throne, we find that parliamentary assistants for ministers are to be provided. In my judgment this is long past due. I have sat in the house, along with other hon. members, for three sessions, watching the lines deepen on the faces of tired ministers who were attempting vastly more, by way of the burdens they are carrying, than human endurance is capable of bearing. Therefore I welcome the approach to the British system of under-secretaryships.

Recently, however, I heard a speech delivered by one of the leaders of a great political party in this country, criticizing the appointment of men to boards, commissions and controllerships, allegedly accusing these boards, and appointees to boards, commissions and controllerships of being supreme over parliament, and even supreme over the government. He described them as being dictators, practically, riding roughshod over parliament, and over people's rights; and even placing the democracy of our country in danger.

Well, I listened for the remedy, and finally it came. The remedy was the appointment of under-secretaries to do the work, in place of these boards, commissioners and controllers. First, I wish to dissociate myself from those who fear dictatorships in war time, and who fear that the liberties we must give up during war time may never be regained when peace returns. The parliament of Canada passed the War Measures Act, and the powers the government is taking are under that act. The government, by virtue of that act, appoints boards, commissioners and controllers to do a certain kind of work. With the return to peace parliament will repeal the War Measures Act, and the operations of these boards, commissions and controllerships will come to an end.

Candidly I have always stood ready to give the government vast power. I want it to cast away any timidity, of which it has sometimes been accused—if, indeed, it has been guilty of timidity. I am sure that if a demand comes for greater sacrifice and greater duties, the Canadian people will always be ready to answer that call. We want the