

When I say at once I do not mean to-day or to-morrow, but should not that be the objective of the government?

In a recent appeal for recruits after the June and July campaign the adjutant-general said:

The war can be won only by man-power. Our army must have more and more men, the best and finest men of the dominion, trained to fighting pitch, skilled in the handling of every weapon.

Frequently and emphatically the Prime Minister has stated that the only way to wage total war is by total effort. With that we all agree; but does not total effort require the complete utilization of every resource in man-power as well as materials? Until every man available for service in the armed forces has been enlisted in the armed forces can we honestly claim a total effort? Recently the Secretary of State (Mr. Casgrain) made a recruiting speech, in which he said:

Canada needs soldiers and needs them in greater numbers than they were needed in the last war.

If that be true, as I believe it is, then is it not obvious that our duty is to provide that strength now, or as soon as possible? In the last war, if I recall aright, the total number of Canada's enlisted men was 595,000. If, as the Secretary of State and I believe, men are needed in greater numbers than in the last war, I suggest that this is the time to enlist and equip men if we are to join in the invasion of Europe and help end the war. My hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) made a speech, in the course of which, according to the Canadian Press report, he said:

Canada can muster 1,000,000 men for the armed forces and still attain the necessary production in farm and factory.

That is a pretty high figure. My hon. friend was Minister of National War Services for a time, and I do not know of anyone who should better know our potentialities in regard to man-power. At all events that was his statement. If that be true—and I believe it is—is not this the time to muster these men? If we have a potential man-power capacity of a million men, how can it be said that we are now engaged in a total, all-out effort to win a total war when we have mustered less than one-third that number of men for active service?

This issue of man-power must be faced realistically. Total effort requires total enlistment at once of all available man-power, whatever system may be used to enlist them. At the bar of history Canada will be judged by the manner in which she responded to the challenge to provide man-power, not by the

tenacity with which her government clung to any particular system of recruiting. Canadians have the same capacity for service and sacrifice as Britons. Canadians will not shrink from any service or sacrifice, and if this war goes on much longer they had better be prepared not to shrink, because it is going to get much worse, I think, before it gets better. Nor is it conceivable that they will fail to do their duty when the need for man-power is placed before them. Has not the time arrived when the government of Canada, in the light of present day conditions, in the light of what is contemplated for the future, should review the whole position in relation to man-power? I urge the government to do so, and at once.

That, I think, is the magnitude of the task that lies before Canadians. History teaches that victory depends upon a superior number of men, with superior training and superior equipment; and upon Canada falls a large measure of the responsibility for creating such a force in this war. Henceforth we must be guided by the strategy of offence. We must realize that the only defence against Hitler is attack. Wars are won not by defence but by attack; and if that attack is to be successful we must have superiority in every respect. That superiority can be achieved, but only if we use all our resources. So that my message to the House of Commons and the people of Canada to-day is that the salvation of Canada, of the empire and of the democracies, the defeat of Hitler, demands at once an infinitely greater contribution than we have made thus far; a greater contribution in material resources as well as a greater contribution in trained and equipped man-power. And I suggest that there is the opportunity of helping to create a force such as I have outlined, here in Canada.

Now I should like to put a query to the Prime Minister and the members of the administration. We have declared for a total war. What is the objective of the government of Canada? Neither the Prime Minister nor anyone else, as far as I can recall, has stated our objective in terms of material things or in man-power. Is the sky the limit, or has the government in mind an objective in relation to either of these things? The Prime Minister has spoken eloquently of a total effort for a total war. What does he mean by that? I think he should enlighten the Canadian people as to his exact meaning. Or are we to take his words at their face value? If we are to have a total war effort, what are the means to be adopted to bring it about? Can we safely rely on the voluntary system of enlistment, or should we not review the whole policy? What is the position to-day