

but I want the Government to put as much energy into helping our farm production, no matter what particular branch, as it is putting into industrial production, since, as I have said, our reserves of food will undoubtedly be an important factor when we come to settle world peace.

Let me deal now with another war problem. I refer to man-power. It is no secret that right along there have been sufficient volunteers for the Naval Service, and the Minister of National Defence for Naval Affairs has told the country that as fast as the Government can build new ships there will be men ready to man them. And I am glad to know that our young men have volunteered in large numbers for the Air Force. I may say I have heard that in certain sections of the Dominion young fellows have been rejected because they lacked the scholastic training insisted on by the department. Such a high educational standard may be essential, and in this regard, of course, I bow to the judgment of those in authority, but it seems to me it might be well to lower the educational standard to some extent in order to afford equal opportunity to young men all over Canada who wish to join the Air Service. My own boy is in the Air Service, and I have the greatest respect for its personnel, for I realize the many hazards that our airmen have to face. Indeed, to use a somewhat grim word, if there is a "suicide" group in our fighting forces it is surely to be found in the Air Force.

I was disappointed when I saw the dress furnished to our soldiers. You may say that is a little thing, but boys are boys, and when you have boys of your own you can speak with all the more authority on their likes and dislikes.

Right Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: They have two dresses now.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I know that. But two years have gone by. The boys in the dark blue uniform of the Navy, with their swaggering wide pants, and the boys in the light blue uniform of the Air Force, you notice as they walk down the street.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: So do the girls.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Well, the Army boys do not like it. I am glad the Government has realized the situation and taken action. A friend of mine who came back from the last war with the rank of major said to me at the opening of the present war: "You should rise in your place in the Senate and point out that while a more dressy outfit may cost a little extra, the additional expense will be more than repaid by the desire which the more

attractive dress will arouse in young men to join the Army." The mere attractiveness of the uniform is not important in itself, but it is something to be considered when you are dealing with young men from eighteen to twenty years of age.

As has been well said, this war will be won by the man behind the gun.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: And on the land.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Yes, and on the land. It is, in the final analysis, the only place where it can be won. After we have won the war we shall have to feed the starving peoples of Europe. When you read the heroic exploits of the British Navy they fairly make your blood tingle, and, beyond doubt, without that great Navy we could not win the war at all. But to-day command of the air is all-important. In fact, each service is complementary to the other. We are proud of our great naval craft, of our superior fighting planes and bombers, and of our tanks and other mechanical equipment, but fundamentally we have to rely on the man behind the gun, who, following the traditions of Waterloo and of the last Great War, will carry the war to Germany and march victoriously into Berlin.

We Canadians this morning were disturbed when we read of the loss of the Lady Hawkins. It brings home to us with tragic emphasis that the war is right off our own coasts. We must be prepared to meet the threat.

The issue now facing Canada is whether the Government should be released from a certain pledge made some time ago. I do not think that a discussion along political lines would advance our war effort one bit. On the contrary, I believe honourable senators would be severely criticized if they provoked such a discussion. But I do submit that if the proposed plebiscite is taken, it will have to be for something more than the purpose of releasing the Prime Minister, or his Government, or his party from certain commitments; it will have to bring about the discontinuance of a campaign that the Liberal party has for twenty-five years carried on across Canada. In every election campaign since 1917 the Liberal party has stressed the fact that the Conservative party introduced conscription to send men overseas. Both by innuendo and directly the people were led to believe that the Liberal party would never invoke such a policy. Let me recall the elections of 1921 and 1925. It is interesting to note that in 1925, under the leadership of the Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, the Conservative party won as many seats in eight of the provinces as it did under Mr. Bennett in 1930. In 1925 the Conservative party carried 112 seats out of 180; in 1930,

Hon. Mr. HAIG.