

living if he were to pay or lend more than half his individual income to the state. We are asking the house for this appropriation because we recognize the fact that probably this will be the most critical year in the history of civilization.

I need not say that to carry out the war programme for which we are asking the house to make provision will tax Canada's productive capacity to the limit, will necessitate a continuing and more rapid shift from peacetime to war-time production, and will require for many of us drastic changes in our mode of living and habits of life. As the Prime Minister said in his Sunday night broadcast about two weeks ago, it will "mean more in the way of united determination, effort and sacrifice than has ever before been asked of the Canadian people."

The War Appropriation Bill (1941) was passed on March 25, 1941.

3. *WAR APPROPRIATION BILL, STATEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER, MARCH 25, 1941.*

More than a month has now elapsed since the resolution was introduced on which the war appropriation bill is based. During that time, discussion on the resolution and the bill have, with the exception of a few days, occupied the almost continuous attention of hon. members. I am not objecting to what there has been in the way of consideration in detail of the various aspects of Canada's war effort. That, I believe, has been all to the good. I feel, however, that the detailed discussion, and the many by-paths explored, may have tended to obscure from the house, and certainly from the country, the tremendous significance of our war appropriation.

A Stupendous Effort

We are enacting a measure which pledges Canada to the most stupendous effort in our national history. I feel we should not allow the bill to receive its third reading in this House of Commons without giving the fullest possible credit to those who have made the measure possible, and who are bearing the burden of the tremendous task which it imposes, namely, the people of Canada.

There has been far too great a tendency, both in the house and in the press, to speak of what we are doing as the government's war effort. We all know it is something far greater than that; it is Canada's war effort. What is more, it is an effort which is wholly worthy of Canada, and of which every Canadian is entitled to be justly proud.