

make good the loss of munition making capacity which Russia has sustained by the German invasion. We have had also to forego very important supplies we had expected from the United States but which have now, with our consent, been diverted to Russia.

In 1940, this parliament passed the National Resources Mobilization Act. This act gave the government full power to conscript all the wealth of the country whether owned by individuals or companies. Therefore our government now has, what few people realize, full power to conscript wealth and send it in whatever form it is deemed advisable anywhere in order to defend Canada. Under that act, however, we cannot send our man-power beyond the shores of Canada unless they volunteer to go even if it is necessary to do so in order to defend Canada.

But events are happening very rapidly and to-morrow we may be living under entirely changed circumstances. Who can tell but that it may be imperative for the defence of Canada to send large forces of men to fight nazism wherever it may be found? Personally, I feel the government should be empowered to do so. This government, however, and every hon. member who supports it, and in fact most if not all members of this house, gave their solemn promise to the electorate that they would not require men under any circumstances to go beyond the shores of Canada unless they should go of their own free will and accord. Under nazism, the promise of a leader is nothing but a scrap of paper, but under our democratic system of government it is as binding as any bond under seal.

Some may argue that we should ignore our pledge given to the people and change the law without consultation with them. I greatly fear that such a course would result in tearing Canada asunder, and surely it is patent that we cannot fight one another at home and hope at the same time to defeat the enemy abroad. If the government, if hon. members themselves are to be released from their pledge, only the people themselves can do the releasing. We must trust the people or the people will not trust us. We shall have kept faith with the people, we shall accept the verdict of the people, and democracy, holding high its head, will drive nazism with its broken promises into the abyss of shame and defeat.

One more thought and I am through. During this session, as in the past, the Prime Minister will doubtless receive many suggestions as to how Canada can best contribute to the winning of the war. It will doubtless be suggested that we should form a national

government. It will doubtless be pointed out that Mr. Roosevelt has taken into his cabinet two republicans, Mr. Stimson and Mr. Knox, and is considering taking Mr. Wendell Willkie into his cabinet. Why should Mr. Roosevelt not take these men into his cabinet? For months before Mr. Stimson and Mr. Knox went into the cabinet they were openly opposed to all those who were objecting to the national defence policy of the president, and we all remember that immediately after the last election in the United States Mr. Wendell Willkie forgot partisanship and gave his full support to the president. If there are those, within or without this house, belonging to opposing parties, who would serve, let them follow the example of Mr. Wendell Willkie and give our Prime Minister the support which he so justly deserves. I cannot do better than admonish critics of this government to follow the example set by that great statesman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who, while leader of the opposition during the last war, said:

Let us here and now sink passions, prejudices, vain and idle recriminations. Let us, when criticism is needed, criticize without bitterness, only by appeals to reason, and above all, let us bend our energies towards making Canada an effective factor in the struggle.

Mr. Speaker, let us be proud of our great country, of our leaders and of our people; and let each one of us, irrespective of party, creed or race, resolve that until this war is won we will support our leaders, support our workers and support our fighters, and that as individuals we will give unstintingly of our best to make Canada's mighty war effort mightier yet.

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in rising to move the adjournment of the debate, may I offer my personal congratulations to the hon. member for Hull (Mr. Fournier) and the hon. member for Brantford City (Mr. Macdonald) for the manner in which they have acquitted themselves this afternoon. I expected good speeches from both of them. Both belong to the legal profession; both have had a long training in public speaking; both are leaders of the bar in their own communities; both have had long experience in this parliament. The manner of their performance this afternoon was in keeping with the training which they have both had over a long period of years. I offer them very sincerely my personal congratulations.

I was greatly interested in that part of the speech of the hon. member for Hull which I was able to follow. My regret is that I could