

the more optimistic our people become, and perhaps without proper justification, it is only natural that the looser their talk, the more careless their utterance tends to become.

Mr. RALSTON: My hon. friend and I very often do not agree, but I should like to go on record now as supporting everything he has just said.

In the first place, with regard to the dispatch which he has read, while I do not wish that we should pat ourselves on the back, I think we have done a particularly good job, and here I am speaking not only for the army, but for all the staffs and for the Canadian people generally, and particularly the people of western Canada, when I say that I do not think security was ever more loyally observed than it was in connection with the Kiska operation. I mean that the people who saw the boats being loaded and knew that troops were being withdrawn and who were bound to get some idea of the direction in which those troops were going, kept their mouths shut. At least it never got to the ears of our intelligence branches that there had been any leaks in connection with that expedition. That went for the relatives of the boys who missed their mail and knew that something must be doing, and for the boys themselves who loyally observed security regulations. I do think that Kiska was an example of staff work and team work by the army, the navy and the air force, because they were all in it, and civilians, too, which could well be emulated in operations of the future.

With regard to my hon. friend's other point, I endeavoured when I was making my opening statement to the committee to emphasize as strongly as I could my own conviction that the idea that the war is over is perhaps the one factor that will be the strongest in lengthening the war of any factor of which one can conceive. When people get the idea that the war is over, there is sure to be, as my hon. friend says, a relaxation, a feeling that we do not need to work quite as hard to win. That is exactly what our enemies are working for and playing for, to get us in a state of complacency or to get us tired out and tired of it all, which might give them an opportunity to force or exact or obtain some better terms than the terms now facing them of unconditional surrender. As I said at the opening of the last war loan, if I were giving a motto to the people of Canada for 1944—there used to be a preacher in our church who gave his people a text for the year on New Year's day—my text to the people of Canada in the year 1944 would be: Don't let up. I agree

[Mr. Graydon.]

with my hon. friend that we can only keep up the pressure in connection with men, equipment, and money if we don't let up, and if we restrain ourselves in the matters we would like to talk about, restrain ourselves from giving any inside information that we may have and would like to communicate to somebody else to convince them that we are in on the know. We should endeavour at all times to restrain ourselves from indulging in that very agreeable form of self-exultation, and just keep any information we have to ourselves until this show is over. I do not think there is any time in history when coming events have been foreshadowed in the headlines the way they have been in this war. Sometimes I feel like deploring the amount of publicity which is given to what are regarded as future events. Of course it is so, in these days of rapid communication, and when so many people have to be "in on it", that a great many people do know, and a democratic people, particularly, demand information and consider that they ought to be "let in" as far as their leaders can let them in. I only hope that the desire to satisfy that legitimate longing to have information in a war in which people have everything invested, not only their money but their men as well, will not lead anybody to go too far and endanger lives and the success of operations by giving more information than is absolutely necessary to accomplish the purpose which I have suggested.

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): There are two matters which I should like to place before the committee and, perhaps, have a statement with regard to them from the minister. The first has to do with a man in my constituency of Cumberland who was called up and placed in C category; who lived on the farm with his brother, his father being dead; who had a postponement, and who worked in the woods cutting wood and getting some logs, which he was anxious to have hauled out while the snow was still on the ground. He was called to Halifax, and it would now appear, under another number and in the name of another person. He was accepted by the army and placed in the service under the name of Harry Blake Fraser, number G15883, his real name being Harry Brenton Fraser and his number G15419. He is now in the army under this other name, although he had exemption as a farmer and, as I said, was working in the woods getting out logs and lumber. The question is whether he is under military authority, whether he must remain there or