

about the Treaty, is there among reasonable people who believe in right, who believe in justice between man and man, not just in proportion to the individual strength of each, who believe in those rights of man, who value those achievements of civilization, which alone make life worth while for us, is there a single being who can be blind to the issue which faces us now? Germany, or rather the man who stands in sole command of that country, says, "We must have room to live," and in order to have room to live he invades Poland, where the density of population is double that in Germany itself. He gave his word, on the honour of his country, first to Austria, then to Czechoslovakia, then to Poland, then to Britain, and at a moment opportune for himself he threw every covenant away and declared for the rule of blood and iron.

If the principles of Hitler are to prevail—and they will prevail unless the Allies win—then the world as we have known it will have passed away. It will mean not just another dynasty in Europe; it will mean another form of the whole constitution of humanity. It will mean that there is nothing left to us worth living for.

I come to the duty of Canada, and to the means by which that duty is to be discharged, as revealed by the Government. There are some things contained in the Speech from the Throne and in what has been said by the Prime Minister, particularly in his remarks of Sunday, the first of September, for which I am grateful. The Prime Minister said, "There is no home in Canada, no family and no individual whose fortunes and whose freedom are not bound up in the present struggle." Those words are not a platitude; they are true, as true as ever fell from human lips. Learn those words. Then your own minds will tell you the duty that flows therefrom, what rational beings must do so that that struggle may eventuate in the only way which will mean life to the people of our country.

The Prime Minister also said that we take our stand "for effective co-operation by Britain's side." I am grateful for those words. That decision flows from the first premise. Let us remember that decision, and let us stand as one people to make certain that those words are translated into deeds, and translated with no avoidable delay, and that no guilt falls upon Canada in respect of our part in this struggle.

There is one misapprehension—I will call it that—with which I should like to occupy the minds of honourable members for a moment. Many a time and oft we have heard the assertion that our duty is to defend our own land. While it is true that this is our

primary duty, I rather regret the prominence that assertion had in the speech delivered elsewhere yesterday, and I refer to it now only to make certain that it is not misunderstood. That our first duty is to do all we can to render our own people and country secure from attack on our two shores, from attack by air and from internal disturbance, there is no question. What I want to call attention to, as I have done many a time before, is this, that when we shall have taken steps to protect ourselves in that way we shall not have provided for the security of Canada. We shall have carried out only certain local duties which, if we were not here to perform them, would have had to be performed by an expedition to our shores from the strength of Britain. But security in that sense is merely local and temporary. I am sorry we cannot fully provide even such security for ourselves. We are not equipped to do so. That we must endeavour to do so to our utmost, I quite agree with the most ardent advocate of Canadian defence. But, I ask honourable members, what becomes of that form of protection if on the main issue the arms of the Allies fail? Will Canada then be secure? The few provisions we have already made for our own defence, and any that we may build up with our own strength, will they mean our security? No. We shall have no security at all unless the main issue is won. We can help to defend our own country while the main struggle lasts, and, if that struggle ends as we all pray it will, our defence will be sure. But if the struggle should end the other way, the security of Canada will have gone.

I read with pleasure an address delivered by the Minister of Justice in the other House on the 31st of March last. I could see he appreciated the actual state of our defence and the impossibility of providing anything in the way of ultimate protection by the energies of Canadians alone. He said we must look elsewhere for that, as we have ever looked. Against attack, he said, we can but do our best till help comes. And, he asked, if we depend on others to help us, how can we refuse to those others, when in need, the help of Canada? We cannot. If there is a mind which can deny the eternity of that truth, I cannot understand that mind. Are we defending ourselves now? Well, we try, but we are not equipped. The present is not the time to criticize our incapacity. But while we sit in this House this afternoon warships of Britain line the shores of this Dominion. The security of our coast cities to-day rests under the wing of the British Navy.

An Hon. SENATOR: Hear, hear.