

screen, added to the delay that was caused by holding the plebiscite, for the mistakes which were made in disarmament before this war and for which the government of the day is responsible.

This country is not doing its duty. There should be no more political conduct of this war. We could have had a million men trained for the army under the voluntary system if we had not been acting on the on-again-off-again principle. Recruits came forward all over this dominion at the beginning of the war and were told that they were not needed for the army. The ambition to serve was there, but these young men were told they were not wanted and that there was no room for them in the army. It was difficult to get into the army then, but they could get into the air force and into the navy without limit.

This is a life and death struggle and I should like to know why in a democratic country like Canada there is not equality of sacrifice. In this country from coast to coast we have spent millions of dollars on free education, free textbooks, free dental and medical inspection. Is it, then, too much to ask our youth to do something which has been done ever since the creation of the world, to undertake the defence of one's own country? That is the first duty of a citizen. But in some of our schools and state universities long before this war started they were preaching pacifism and that it was immoral to defend one's country, with the result that when the war came, pacifism had almost got control of the government.

I believe that Russia is very badly in need of men and materials. The "yes" vote in the plebiscite urged the government to wage total war. We have forgotten to think out loud in Canada and let the people know that this country is less democratic in matters of defence than the totalitarian nations whose armies are composed of every able-bodied man between certain ages, who come at the call of duty to serve the state. That is regarded as the highest form of social service. Our educational system has been lacking in that respect. It has not taught the children of the land that their first duty is to defend the realm. Our troops will suffer as a result of pacifist doctrines and policies. We were not ready for this war. The real facts of our situation have been withheld from the people of Canada. It is absolutely useless to send untrained men up against trained men. Are we going to send our young men without sufficient training to Russia and Europe, because there will be another peninsular war sooner or later, to fight the highly trained soldiers of the axis powers? Munich

gave this country and the world a year's respite. That respite had to be purchased by Britain and France from Germany because either singly or together they were then no match to meet Germany as both Britain and France had disarmed. This respite was turned into an ultimatum, and this country stayed sound asleep and did nothing about the matter.

The result of the vote on the plebiscite shows the spirit of our people, and proves that the Canadian people are ready to make greater sacrifices if they are told that those sacrifices are necessary to win the war. Britain can no longer rely on the English channel and the Atlantic ocean as her sufficient protection; and the day is not far distant, unless we bestir ourselves and rid our strategy of politics, when we shall be facing a very grave peril. This is a life and death struggle, and nobody knows where it is going to end.

The mistakes which have been made in the far east show the immediate necessity of an empire war cabinet. There is no more important topic before the world and the British empire to-day, because without a war cabinet the war cannot be won. We have evidence of the need of it in the mistakes which have been made in the far east. The Prime Minister need not be in attendance; he can have a representative there. In the last great war the war council did very useful work. It led to coordination of effort and cooperation in strategy, in place of every country pursuing a strategy of its own. I hope that the matter will be reconsidered and that action will be taken in this direction.

Britain did not want war, but she will stand higher than any other nation in the verdict of history. As in the parable, while the lawyer, the priest and the Levite illustrated the hollowness and sham of their profession, it was the much maligned Britain that alone came forward, voluntarily, and acted the part of the Good Samaritan to stand in the breach and save the world from slavery. Britain has acted the part of the Good Samaritan in this war. She has been the protector of the weak the world over. She entered this war voluntarily. There was no selfish reason why she should have entered it, and by her stand and the heroism of her people after Dunkirk she saved the whole human race. She has been the bulwark of freedom, religion and civilization; to her will go the main credit in history.

I believe the Prime Minister will have the united support of the whole house for his bill. I know, as a member of the opposition, that he has received pretty good support from our leader. The splendid speech which the leader of the opposition (Mr. Hanson) made yesterday will be remembered as one of the best