

answer cries "no" to high heaven. The obligations of good citizenship demand that we face this position regardless of all considerations.

Then there is the disgraceful situation relating to the establishment and maintenance of a home army of trained, seasoned troops, said to be seventy or seventy-five thousand strong, costing the nation \$150,000,000 each year, held immobilized, neither in the war nor out of it, neither in industry or agriculture nor out of it. This government has simply stalled on the whole question. I appeal to every member of parliament to examine his conscience and his regard for his own self-respect on this issue. Let us for the moment forget the dubious record of the past and with ringing resolution resolve to do the right thing before it is too late.

I appeal to the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Ralston), to his colleague the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley), to his colleague the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services (Mr. Macdonald), to his colleague the Minister of National Defence for Air (Mr. Power). We well know what their position and principles are in regard to this matter. It is well known they have held opinions that coincide with mine, and they have practically so declared in this house. I appeal to them to comport themselves like men, not mice; to cast into oblivion the policy of appeasement which has too long disgraced this nation—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member's time has expired.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): May I have three minutes more?—and then I shall be through. I appeal to them to cast into oblivion the policy of appeasement which has too long disgraced this nation in the eyes of the allied nations, and particularly in the eyes of our neighbours to the south, who have marvelled times without number at the poltroon position which we occupy.

Our gallant sons, fourteen battalions strong, perhaps more, have assaulted the embattled fortress of Europe. Casualties so far have been moderate, but the assaults have hardly begun. They need and will continuously need a large and ever-increasing stream of able, strong, well-trained troops to take the place of casualties which will grow in ever-increasing numbers. Where are these men to come from if not from this immobilized force, Canada's home army? These men apparently never were intended to fight. The fact is they will fight if the government wills that they fight. This playing of partisan politics has been a foul blot on Canada's national effort and unity in this great conflict. This government has consistently not done that which it knew to

[Mr. R. B. Hanson.]

be the right and the logical thing to do, that is, enforce equal service and sacrifice everywhere in relation to the war. Let us end all this. If we do not, the verdict of history will be that as a nation we were poltroons and failed in our duty. On this whole question we have an inglorious record. Let us blot out that record, gird ourselves like men and once more lift up our heads, courageous and unashamed.

Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): I do not intend to deal with the many ramifications of the budget. The hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr (Mr. Coldwell) made a general survey of that subject, and I think set out clearly and specifically the opinions of the people we represent in this house. The only comment I have to make on the remarks of the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Hanson) is that, as usual, he took a left-handed swipe at the members of this group, and his whole speech would indicate that he does not like the government or the C.C.F. Well, as long as the people of the country like us and recognize the fact that we are doing the best job we can, we are quite satisfied.

With regard to the budget, the minister did his usual good job in presenting it to the house. It was rather an easy job this time in that there were very few changes in it. He made one change that I think was very important and long overdue—the lifting of the duties against agricultural machinery. But there was one thing I believe he overlooked. What he did in respect of importations of agricultural implements he should have done in respect of the materials and equipment necessary to the proper functioning of the fishing industry. They too should have been relieved of the heavy imposts levied against the necessary equipment they must import. I leave that thought with the minister, in the knowledge that representations have already been made to him from different sources since the budget was brought down.

This afternoon in the time at my disposal I shall endeavour to straighten the record concerning certain statements that have been made in the house. First I wish to make the record clear in connection with certain comments of the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Reid), in the course of which he made a comparison of interest, debt and the like in Canada and New Zealand. His figures are not correct, and when he made the statement I pointed out to him that he was telling only half the story. In order that the record may be complete I shall now give the rest of the picture. I believe we do a