

persuaded that they were mistakes of the head and not of the heart, and that we were wholeheartedly behind the war effort. I know that a number of people in various parts of the country have objected to certain phases of the war effort, but I believe in my heart that if they had been schooled in the matter as they will be schooled in the problems of peace, it would have been a different story.

In discussing the Speech from the Throne, speakers on this side usually say that the Government have presented a long address with nothing in it. In this instance we find the usual practice reversed; we have a short address with a great deal in it. This Parliament, unfortunately for some, expires on the 17th of April, and a new House of Commons will have to be elected. This, of course, does not affect honourable members of this Chamber. I do not think it needs a prophet or the son of a prophet to tell honourable senators, many of whom are seasoned parliamentarians and know the difficulties of getting re-elected, that no matter how good the Government's record may have been there will be a great change in the personnel of the other House. I can remember that every time there was an election for the legislature in the province of Manitoba we prophesied that there would be a fifty per cent change, and this prophecy was nearly always borne out. Undoubtedly, by reason of resignations and deaths, and the loss of conventions and seats that were thought to be safe, we shall have a much more divided Parliament following the general election which, according to the Speech from the Throne, is to be held some time in the very near future. Of course honourable members of this House are not interested in elections in the same way that members of the House of Commons are. As senators we are not interested in any one party. You may say that the honourable senator from Manitoba is interested in the Progressive Conservative party, or that the senator from some place else is interested in another party; but, fundamentally, what we are interested in is that the country should elect to Parliament men and women who will be worthy to carry on the tradition of Canada as upheld by our men and women who have given their lives for it. That is our situation, and I am persuaded that for many years to come the future of this country will to a large extent depend on the policies of the Government in office during the next five years. If those policies are sound they will benefit our people.

As I said, the war in Europe is drawing to a close. It is generally felt that if the Allied Nations had not insisted on unconditional surrender Germany would have capitulated

months ago. It is a time of anxious suspense and in the years to come parents whose sons may make the supreme sacrifice in the concluding stages of the war on the western front may be pardoned if they feel that it would have been better had Germany been granted certain terms of surrender. But the Allied Nations are taking the long view and are determined not to repeat the mistake made in 1918—a mistake which has involved us in this second world war. As the Prime Minister stated in another place, reports from both the western and eastern fronts are so favourable as to indicate an early collapse of German military power. I am not one of those who take a very serious view of the Japanese war. True, the Japs may fight to the death on their home islands, but there is no question in my mind that the struggle in the Pacific will be concluded much sooner than at one time seemed possible, for our overwhelming superiority in both naval and air strength is bound to hasten the end of Japanese resistance.

Let me now pass to something that I desire to bring to the attention of honourable members. I do not believe that either the Government or other responsible authorities are properly prepared for peace. Both Liberals and Progressive Conservatives believe in free enterprise; another school of thought favours socialism. It may be made to appear more attractive under some other name, but always in reality it is socialism—state control. I am confident that nearly every soldier, sailor and airman on his return to Canada will be in favour of free enterprise. Dissatisfaction, even disunity, in this country, as in others, is caused by the very essence of socialism—compulsion to do certain things.

When our service men and women come home they will seek, and we will give them, every opportunity to re-establish themselves in civil life. What are we going to do with, say, a young man who returns to Canada after serving two, three, four or five years as pilot, radio operator, or gunner on one of our big bombers? I asked one of those youths, "When in difficulties do you boys pray?" He said, "I don't know, but if they do pray they pray for me, because I happen to be the pilot, and if I don't make a safe landing they won't either. I asked another pilot how he was getting on. He said, "I am having trouble with my rear gunner. He wants to marry a girl in Winnipeg and a girl in London. I don't care which girl he marries, but he had better get married very soon, for he is disturbing the whole crew." I asked, "Why not fire him and get another gunner?" He replied, "The only trouble is, he would go through hell for me." What are we going to do with those young