

chette) of the address, if I congratulated them with brevity upon their performance this afternoon, but they have both done so well, exceptionally well indeed, that I feel constrained to add a sentence or two more to my remarks with respect to these hon. gentlemen. I listened particularly to the hon. member for Algoma West (Mr. Hamilton), coming as he does from a section of the country whence I come myself, northern Ontario, and I may say at once that with most if not all of the sentiments which he expressed I can agree. He offered to the government many constructive suggestions, some of which I had intended to discuss and which I shall deal with in my own way. Many of those constructive suggestions are worthy of the government's attention. I compliment the hon. gentleman and his constituency upon the excellent manner in which he moved the address. I believe I am safe in saying that not only the hon. member for Algoma West but the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Blanchette) had the honour of serving in the great war, the former in the Canadian and the latter in the United States forces. With that honour behind them they can speak with some authority in a session such as this.

The hon. member for Compton gave a moderate and reasonable address. I do not intend to discuss it in detail but I can say that as regards his final expression of a desire for moderation and tolerance I can stand by him absolutely. If ever there was a time when we required moderation in this country we require it in a crisis such as this, and if I may dare to supplement what the hon. member for Compton has said, I should like to add that I also hope that not only in this parliament but out of it we shall be tolerant of the points of view of other Canadians.

I do not intend to make any protracted remarks on this occasion. I agree with the hon. member for Algoma West when he says that this is a time for action rather than for words, and I would add that so far as this party is concerned I can speak with authority when I say that there will not be, either now or later, anything in the way of political manoeuvring or captious criticism. We are going through a very grave crisis, perhaps the gravest that the world has ever known. After all, we cannot forget that it was just twenty-five years ago that this parliament met in a special war session—twenty-one years ago that we ceased to participate in the last war. In other words, there will have been two great wars within the life-time of a generation. Certainly that is a heavy load for all of us to bear. But at the same time all the allies in the last war and in this one can feel the certainty that they did

not desire the war; that this war, as the last one, was thrust upon them. In fact Mr. Chamberlain and M. Daladier were so strongly opposed to entering the war at all that we all know there was a certain amount of grumbling in certain countries, in some cases where they were not taking any part in the war, because it was thought that these leaders hesitated to stand by Poland. But that very delay and hesitation is to-day a source of pride to all of us, proving as it does so fully and completely that neither England nor France would have entered into a war at all had they not been driven into it by Hitler.

It is no exaggeration to say that this is a war for the preservation of human liberty. We have had abundance of evidence that Hitlerism means autocracy, barbarism, international gangsterism—I used that term about it at the last session of this parliament and I think it is a proper term to describe the actions of Hitler. Should Hitler win this war it may well be the end of civilization as we know it. The civilization which we enjoy to-day may go as other civilizations have gone before it.

This session of parliament was called particularly for the purpose of getting parliamentary sanction and authority for the actions of the government in support of the part that Canada will play in this war. The Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) the other day, in a statement which I have before me, said that he would seek parliament's authority for "effective cooperation by Canada at the side of Britain." In that expression of desire for the effective assistance and authority of parliament I may say at once that the Prime Minister has the assent and support of the party which I have the honour to lead. It is our duty to let the world, friends and foes alike, know that we are to-day unitedly behind the mother country in this war for human liberty. England and France went into this war with no selfish motives, with no hope of financial gain, with no desire for aggrandizement, with no imperialistic ambitions; they went in to save civilization from Hitler, a man whose plighted word we have all learned gives no security, a man who has on numerous occasions in his own country and Austria at any rate instigated murder for the attainment of his ends, a man who rode roughshod over Austria and Czechoslovakia, a man who apparently holds nothing sacred. Individual liberties, national rights, treaty obligations, international boundaries, may all be violated for the purpose of attaining his wild ambitions.

He is not the first man who has attempted to dominate the world. A much greater man