

of many men, that General McNaughton occupies to-day a high and commanding position in the counsels of the empire, and very deservedly so. I want it to be known that every opportunity was given to us, having regard to the limited amount of time at our disposal, to see the things which we desired to see. I could not regale the house with many human-interest stories and tales of things that happened while we were in England, such, for instance, as the thrill I felt at dining with a distinguished admiral in a mighty ship, lying in an historic port, and the kindly reception I received from a revered archbishop in a famous cathedral in England, and the prayers that he said for the strangers within his gates. I could not possibly ask the house to take the time to listen.

May I just tell the house about a Canadian boy from my own part of the country whom we saw at an airport in central England. He had been in a very difficult position during the depression years in this country in 1936 and 1937. He wanted to get into the Royal Canadian Air Force but did not have the necessary educational qualifications. He wanted to become what he is to-day, a great flyer. I could tell of his attempts to get into the Royal Air Force, and of how he wrote to England on his own account and was told that if he could produce educational qualifications equal to junior matriculation, then, other things being satisfactory and equal, he could come to England at his own expense and they might enlist him. He was able to produce the educational qualifications required, and he crossed the Atlantic to England, not as a passenger on a luxury liner but working on a cattle boat. He enlisted in the Royal Air Force in 1938. To-day that young man is a squadron leader. He bears on his breast, pinned there by his majesty himself, the Distinguished Flying Cross, for valour. He told me that he had been over Germany in recent months no less than forty times, and that he had often led his squadron over various countries of occupied Europe. So far he had come through without a scratch. I was exceedingly proud of that young man, and it will be no betrayal of emotion if I say to you that I myself breathed a humble prayer that he and the others like him might be preserved to the empire and to his loved ones.

I should like to make this further preliminary observation, and perhaps I should have done so before. We did not go to England with any idea of party advantage. We went there out of a sincere desire to learn at first hand what the situation was,

[Mr. R. B. Hanson.]

and then to find out what more, in our opinion, Canada could do. I should also like to make this perfectly clear, that we did not go to England to disparage the war effort of Canada, and we did not do so. Let that be abundantly clear. No one will ever be able to say that either in private conversation or publicly did any member of our party attempt to disparage, in any degree, the war effort of our own country.

Neither did we go over there, and I want to make this equally clear, to misrepresent the attitude of the government of Canada. The government of Canada represents the people of Canada for the time being on a party basis, and whether we like it or not, the government of Canada speaks for the people of Canada not only here but over there. We in Canada, of course, have the right while here to make representations about the government's effort. But I assure the house that I did not by any word I uttered, nor did any of my colleagues, attempt in any degree to misrepresent the government of Canada while we were in England. We went over there at our own expense, outside of the mere item of transportation across the water.

Perhaps I am dwelling too long on matters of minor importance. At this point may I pay a simple tribute to the people of Britain for the spirit and courage they have demonstrated during all the adversity they have encountered during these two years of war. Make no mistake about it; the people of Britain, in certain areas particularly, have had one terrible time. They have suffered, and they have had fear instilled into them to a certain degree. Hon. gentlemen must have read the graphic story by Mr. Grattan O'Leary which appeared in the press the other day describing the bombing he encountered at Bournemouth. Luckily or unluckily we did not experience anything like that.

The British people, instead of being demoralized, as was anticipated by the Germans, by their experiences in the terrible blitz which was showered on them, especially last spring, have come through their time of trial more determined than ever that they will never be conquered. I pay tribute to the spirit of "no surrender" which animates every man we talked to, whether he was the highest in Whitehall or a humble dweller in the east end of London, in Poplar or Stepney, where we spent a whole forenoon looking at the damage that had been done.

No peace talk, no compromise, no deterioration of the race is in evidence there; and yet they are just as mindful, as I would have you be mindful, that the end is not yet. They are as sure as anything can be that when the