

disparage or discredit democracy; democracy has simply never been tried. It is in that respect, something like christianity. New Democracy aims to put at the service of the people the whole resources of Canada, whether that people be at peace or at war. It aims to achieve national security whether we be at peace or at war. It aims to modernize and make efficient the instruments of production and distribution. New Democracy realizes that inefficient democracy means dictatorship. That is the danger which Canada faces to-day. In its way it is a danger as great as is the danger of defeat in war.

Therefore, we urge the adoption of a law of national service so that all our resources of finance, industry and man power may be put at the service of our country, so that there may be equality of service and of sacrifice. Think of the glaring injustice which we saw when a man enlisted in the army and went across the seas to fight for a paltry \$1.10 a day while his neighbour went to work for \$5 a day! After the war that same man came back to find his taxes piled up with compound interest which he had to pay. Will anyone dare to assert that in that man's case democracy worked? What a disgraceful thing! We are now seriously contemplating a repetition of that and like abominations.

We urge the adoption of national service because that is the only basis of maximum efficiency. Without maximum efficiency we cannot win. If we all give all we have, we will win. I do not find myself in sympathy with those people who believe that this war will spell the destruction of civilization. This war is simply one of the incidents in the great progress of the human race. From it, under God, we shall emerge a greater, nobler, better and happier people than we were before we went into it. We shall never do this by taking a defeatist attitude. We must look up and not down. My group would urge the government to declare its intention to make effective the principle of universal conscription of finance, industry and man power.

The King and Queen of Great Britain are Canada's king and queen. How can Canadians contemplate with calmness the leaving of those two inadequately protected? Canada is our home land, the country where our children and our children's children must live. We dare not, through any neglect of ours, place her in jeopardy. Britain and France are motherlands. Standing, they afford North America a comforting bulwark; fallen, they would constitute in our foemen's hands an irresistible weapon. United we stand, divided we fall. God grant that we be able to be wise and

[Mr. Blackmore.]

brave. Heaven support us to the end that Canadians of our day may stand sufficient in their generation. May Britons of the after years still be able to sing with sincerity, "Britons never shall be slaves."

On motion of Mr. Thorson the debate was adjourned.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order, until Saturday afternoon at three o'clock.

Saturday, September 9, 1939

The house met at three o'clock.

PETITION

OPPOSITION TO PARTICIPATION BY CANADA IN ANY EXTRA-TERRITORIAL WAR—REPORT OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

The Clerk of the House laid upon the table the first report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he had examined the following petition presented on the 8th instant, and finds that it is not in order in the following respects:

It is not addressed to the Honourable the House of Commons in parliament assembled.

It is in the form of a declaration and contains no prayer.

For these reasons it should not be received.

Of Ronaldo French and others of the province of Quebec declaring themselves opposed to any participation in the European war.—Mr. Raymond.

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND

PROVISION FOR ASSISTANCE TO DEPENDENTS OF OFFICERS AND MEN ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Hon. C. G. POWER (Minister of Pensions and National Health) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 2, to incorporate the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

He said: The purpose of the bill, an act to incorporate the patriotic fund, is to set up a corporation the object of which will be to collect, administer and distribute a fund for the assistance in case of need of the wives, children and dependents in Canada of officers and men who may be on active service in the naval, military or air forces of his majesty or of any allied or associated power.

The patriotic fund was first set up in 1900 to care for the dependents of those who served in the South African war. It was reconsti-