

*War Effort—Government Policy*

when I state that his remarks had almost exclusively to do with matters of petty politics between the different political parties in this country. He sought to have this house believe that there was some sort of agreement or understanding between the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party and the Liberal party whereby we were going to work together to defeat the Tory party. Mr. Speaker, the Tory party is defeated beyond all shadow of doubt. We are not concerning ourselves about the Tory party, nor are the people of this country. But we are concerned about the winning of the war and having this war won as speedily as possible, and having as much glory come to our men in the victory that is to come as it is possible for them to gain.

My hon. friend the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (Mr. Coldwell) has moved an amendment to clarify the situation. It is natural that in this parliament, where all of us for years have attached great significance to every word in a resolution, hon. members should sometimes read into a particular resolution a meaning that was never intended or ever thought of at the time that the resolution was drafted. My hon. friend has seen something in the words "its policy of". May I say to him now, as I said when he moved his amendment, that to me the resolution as I read it now as amended carries with it all the meaning that it had in the original motion as I proposed it.

I have nothing to add and nothing to subtract from what I said in opening the present debate as to the meaning, significance and importance of the vote to be taken on the resolution which is now before the house.

I must thank my hon. friend for his obvious desire, one which I myself believed would be shared by every hon. member of this house, to make it perfectly clear to our men overseas, to other nations, yes, and to the enemy, that this house was united and determined upon having a vigorous war effort in support of our men overseas; a policy of maintaining a vigorous war effort. The entire world knows we have had it in the past. During these past five years, there is no nation in the world that has had a finer war effort than Canada has had. It is that effort which we wish to maintain and it is to that effort alone that the resolution before the house at this moment relates.

I thought I made it very clear in my remarks in opening this debate that I was not asking for any vote of confidence on the government's policies generally. I shall not take the time to-night to run over what I said before; the words will be found in *Hansard*.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

However, I should like to reassure my hon. friends who have raised the question that neither this motion as amended nor the original motion as it was before it was amended in any way sought to gain from this house an expression of confidence in all the policies of the government. The leader of the C.C.F. has said that he wants to have it clearly understood that I am not asking for a vote of confidence in all the policies of the government, and another member of his party said that he wished to be sure that we were not asking for an unlimited vote of confidence. May I tell them both that we are not.

What we are asking for is that a vigorous war effort shall be maintained. May I say, in passing, that it cannot be maintained without support, and strong support from this House of Commons. Anyone who has had the responsibilities that I have had over the past five years knows something about the difficulties of maintaining a war effort on the scale on which this government has been maintaining it right along. Anyone who has the knowledge that I have at the present time, knowledge that every hon. member has to a greater or less degree, about the seriousness of the situation at this moment, a seriousness so grave that it can scarcely be imagined, would if he were in my position want to have in no uncertain way the support of this House of Commons in continuing that war effort.

I doubt very much if hon. members of this house can begin to imagine what this war is like at this moment, what it may lead to or what the position of our country may be in future years, years not too far distant, if we show much of division in this House of Commons on any matter that relates to sustaining the war effort of Canada. It is for that reason that I ask that the motion as amended be carried in no uncertain way.

My hon. friend, the leader of the Social Credit party (Mr. Blackmore) has touched upon the real note. He said to all intents and purposes that not alone the people of Canada, but the people of Great Britain, the people of those countries in Europe that have been overrun, and are only just being liberated, the peoples of other allied countries, yes, the peoples of enemy countries as well are watching keenly to see what the result of the vote in the Canadian House of Commons on Canada's war effort is going to be. Germany wishes for nothing more than evidence that in any part of the British commonwealth of nations there is beginning to be a break-up in the determination of the people to keep up their war effort. No succour could come to the enemy equal to that he will receive from