

ULTIMATE BRITISH TRIUMPH WILL MEAN MANY HARDSHIPS, DECLARES CANADA'S PREMIER

Road to Victory Will Be "Longer, Harder
and More Terrible Than Any of Us Real-
ize," Parliament Is Told By King

Canada-United States Defence Agreement
Part of Enduring Foundation of New
World Order Based on Friendship

Ottawa, Nov. 13. — (CP) — Though British arms ultimately will triumph, the road to victory will be "longer, harder and more terrible than any of us realize," Prime Minister King told the house of commons last night. The house listened with intense gravity as Mr. King declared the Dominion's war effort will be limited only by her material and human resources and her capacity for sacrifice, and described the Canada-United States defence agreement of last August as "part of the enduring foundation of a New World order, based on friendship and good will."

Charges Government

The Prime Minister spoke in the debate on the address in reply to the throne speech, after Conservative House Leader Hanson had concluded the opening speech with an amendment to the address declaring the government had "soothed" Canadians into a "false sense of security."

Mr. King said the Imperial conference of 1923 suggested this as one of its guiding principles: "primary responsibility of each portion of the Empire represented at the conference for its own local defence."

Every Imperial conference since then had followed that policy—"that the first duty of each part of the Empire was its own local defence — and having secured the matter of its own local defence, then it should play what part it could by way of more effective co-operation with the other parts of the Empire in an effort against the common foe."

Pursue Same Policy

"That is the policy we have followed from the beginning, the policy that we are pursuing to-day and the policy we intend to pursue so long as we are responsible for the administration of Canada's war effort," he said.

Mr. King's statement on defence policy was in reply to a remark made only a few hours before in the same house by Mr. Hanson: "For us, aid in the defence of Britain should be our first objective; the defence of our beloved country will follow."

Mr. Hanson also had questioned the effectiveness of other administration policies and urged creation of a committee which would examine the ministers responsible on details of the war effort from the standpoint of military participation and supply of munitions.

M. J. Coldwell (C.C.F., Rosetown-Biggan), as acting house leader of his group, followed Mr. King but had not completed his speech at adjournment.

Urges Equal Sacrifice

He said present policies of the government were "delivering Canada more completely into the hands of those who already monopolize our economic life."

Mr. Coldwell declared the country had no right to ask men to "surrender themselves" for armed service unless industry and financial institutions were asked to make equal sacrifice.

Each of the three speakers read the main part of his speech. Mr. Hanson spoke 2½ hours, the Prime Minister 2¼ hours and Mr. Coldwell only 30 of the 40 minutes allotted him under rules of the house.

There was little animation in the chamber, which was well filled with members. Galleries were scarcely more than half filled. There were virtually no interruptions and little applause.

Mr. Coldwell will conclude his address to-day, followed by John

Blackmore, leader of the New Democracy group, and Hon. J. G. Gardiner, minister of agriculture and national war services.

Mr. Hanson ranged over a wide field in his discussion of the government's record. He urged that all parties and major private interests should be represented at the Dominion-provincial conference called for mid-January to consider implementation of recommendations made by the Rowell-Sirois Royal Commission.

The opposition leader said the government should make a personal appeal to Premier Eamon de Valera of Eire to "lease to Canada for the duration of the war" bases from which Empire naval and air force units could operate.

The Prime Minister urged upon all in the house and outside it the desirability of restraint in comments on the actions of other nations, particularly Japan.

Uphold Traditions

He spoke of France and declared the mission of Canada, as a country which was French as well as British, should be to uphold "the traditions of French culture and civilization, and the French passion for liberty in the world."

Giving an intimate picture of Canadian-United States co-operation for defence, which was initiated, he said, at conferences, with President Roosevelt in 1937, Mr. King declared that "in the midst of darkness which to-day enshrouds mankind, the relations between the United States and the British Commonwealth shine forth as the one great beam of hopeful light left in the world."

The Canadian-American defence agreement was "no temporary axis." In reality, it marked the "full blossoming of a long association in harmony between the peoples of Canada and the United States."

Speaking of British-Canadian-United States co-operation from the point of view of the whole British Commonwealth, the Prime Minister said that "in ultimate importance, it far surpasses the formation of the triple axis"—the accord between Germany, Italy and Japan.

Mr. Coldwell in his speech said the C.C.F. members welcome the new session of parliament, believing as they did that parliament should not prorogue or adjourn during the war for more than 90 days at any time.

Scant Consideration

"It is a sad commentary on the Prime Minister's profession of democracy that he has treated parliament with scant consideration since the outbreak of the war," he said.

Although the Prime Minister had given assurance at the August adjournment that parliament actually would meet again November 5, announcement had been carried in the press later that the November 5 meeting would be a mere formality.

"This is still a free parliament and not a fascist grand council or Nazi reichstag to be assembled and dismissed at the will of any member of this house, no matter how

high the office he may occupy," he said.

Since France had fallen completely under the domination of the dictators, he wondered what Canada's relationship now was to the Vichy government whose decrees were "obviously dictated by its Nazi masters." This raised the question of the position of the French embassy in Ottawa, enjoying all the privileges of diplomatic immunity.

National Organization

Recently Maj.-Gen. H. D. G. Crear, chief of the general staff, had been making speeches across Canada emphasizing the need of intensifying efforts "toward the complete provision of armaments for our men in uniform."

The C.C.F. had held for more than a year that Canada's most effective contribution in this war ought to be by national organization of industry to operate without profit.

The National Resources Mobilization act so far had been used only to mobilize men, but it should first have been used to mobilize industry for an efficient war effort, he contended.

Reliance on private enterprise almost lost the last war and blocked the manufacture of certain war supplies in Canada for the first eight months of this war.

"It was not until a new government in Britain revolutionized the control of her war effort that the picture began to change. Yet in Canada, under the policies favoured by the department of munitions and supply, this country is being delivered more completely into the hands of those who already monopolize our economic life, he said.

"Indeed, I will go a step farther and say that it would appear that government-owned institutions are being sacrificed in the interests of private corporations."

The success of the war effort in Britain in the last six months was due to the fact labour was organized and its power was demonstrated in the highest councils of the nation. In Canada employers thwarted attempts to organize with impunity. Even the Canadian Broadcasting corporation did it.

Airing Is Needed

Mr. Coldwell complained that only members of the government or officials who praised them were invited to take part in radio discussions of current matters. Reports of internal conditions in C.B.C. indicated the need of a parliamentary airing of the whole situation.

Mr. Hanson, earlier, advocated extending the compulsory military training period from 30 days to at least four months, and then attaching all training men to units in the non-permanent active militia for further training.

He recognized there were difficulties of lack of equipment which hindered more advanced training and the 30-day program was good as far as it went. However, a small, well-trained and well-equipped army was more to be desired than a huge army of poorly trained men.

He held that Canada's first duty at the moment was to give all possible aid to Britain. In doing so Canada would be looking after her own defence, keeping the front line overseas.

He urged the government to tell the people of Canada the actual state of its war program. They had had so many conflicting reports, so much partisan propaganda from governments, that they did not know what to believe.

960-700-960
710-1014

Nov 13/40
#149
E. J. ...
L. ...