

notice, frank and fearless, this noted leader in Eastern Ontario thought painted a complete picture of the French-Canadian as caught up in any wartime web, and steadfastly loyal in hour of crisis because the French-Canadian's interests lie with Britain, and because all the rights and privileges enjoyed by the French-Canadian are better guaranteed under the British Empire and the Union Jack than could be guaranteed anywhere else. To the lips of this born orator came vivid word pictures of American Revolution days and of Chateauguay, and of more recent times when the French-Canadian had fought shoulder to shoulder by his British brother in defense of democracy. And any man who, like Montreal's Houde, who went out of his way to propound the theory that French-Canadians were a Latin race and "would fight for Italy instead of Britain" in the next war was, to Dr. Belanger's way of thinking, "an ignoramus."

Beyond Jurisdiction.

The resolution, he felt, was stepping beyond provincial jurisdiction. It was invading a field that was the exclusive right of Ottawa to deal with. It was too sweeping; too dictatorial. It should, he felt, have been more general in its application and scope. Should it always be construed, he asked, that when Britain is at war Canada should be at war? There were wars which Britain had prosecuted in the past, he feared, that Canadians would not have liked to engage in. He did not want the House to be "scandalized" just because he suggested that French-Canadians might be at variance with such a theory. French-Canada, he said, had demonstrated in the past how loyal it could be. "Loyalty," he said, "comes not by motion, not by writing, not by speeches and words, but by action when the time comes."

"But in order to show the Federal Government that we understand and appreciate the gravity of the present situation, and because we are a democracy-loving people, and because it behooves us to join the coalition initiated by Great Britain to stop Hitler, I say I shall vote for the motion and the great principles underlying it."

Dr. Belanger was given a great ovation, with Premier Hepburn and Colonel Drew applauding loudly, and with Mr. Macaulay, speaking next, quick to voice publicly the commendation the Prescott member merited. The nasty "sting" of East Hastings issue argument of the past week appeared to vanish. The two leaders in the House smiled gratuitously at each other and even Joseph Habel, the stormy petrel from North Cochrane, and the member who precipitated the bitter cross-Chamber clashes of last Tuesday, seemed to be at peace with his opponents and the world in general.

Out in the corridors—when the House rose—Colonel Hunter, the professional soldier, who brought about this novel and challenging demonstration of faith in the Empire structure, was acclaimed from all sides. True, his original resolution was amended yesterday by the Premier to place the onus for the legislative action desired on the federal authority, where it properly belonged rather than on Queen's Park, but he was, just the same, getting the lion's share of credit for the Legislature's action. In the original resolution conscription of

civil and property rights was proposed. The one passed by the House substituted "wealth and manpower" for civil and property rights and used the word "mobilized" instead of "conscripted."

Not Warlike People.

"It is not to be thought that this province is made up of warlike people," said Mr. Hepburn. "We have here the finest people that ever left the Old Land. But the people of Ontario realize that Canada has a dual population. The country originally was settled by the French." After the Battle of the Plains of Abraham the two peoples had settled down in harmony.

"I have often referred to the common monument to Wolfe and Montcalm, symbolic of the spirit of conciliation achieved by the two peoples. It serves as a challenge to us, reminding us of our duties and responsibility." Later on, said the Premier, the French had fought shoulder to shoulder with the English settlers in the defense of Canada, and it was, as Colonel Hunter had pointed out, their support that repelled a foreign invader.

"The people of Canada believe in the sacredness of human life," the Premier continued, "and every one of its governments has shaped its course toward the preservation of human lives." He said he had given credit on many occasions to such humanitarian works as the establishment of travelling clinics, which had discovered 700 new cases of tuberculosis a year, and to the care and treatment of mental patients in Ontario.

"So Canada cannot be termed a warlike country, yet we are faced with new conditions, changing times," he said. "The democracies are learning what it means to be unprepared."

Some time ago, said the Premier, he had witnessed uncensored motion pictures from Ethiopia and China, showing thousands of defenseless persons mowed down by superior armaments and flame-throwers, Chinese children's bodies literally piled like cordwood, row on row. The pictures depicted scenes so horrible it was considered advisable that they be not shown in Ontario.

Blames Peace Doctrines.

"Great Britain was lulled into a false sense of security by the peace doctrines of her late Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald," continued the Premier. "There is no question in my mind but what he was sincere, but while he was encouraging disarmament, other nations armed and England found herself in the position of a second-rate nation, so far as defense was concerned."

There was not, in his opinion, any suggestion in the resolution that Canada should provoke aggression. It merely called upon the Dominion to assert itself along with other parts of the Empire.

"I have said Canada was totally unprepared. We have witnessed the destruction by the totalitarian powers of Manchukuo, Austria, China, Sudetenland, Czecho-Slovakia and finally Memel.

"Some have said Canada can hang under the wing of the American eagle. I believe also that the United States was lulled into a sense of false security. While it is not my function to comment on the policy of other nations, I want to take the opportunity of commending the United States for her awakening.

"What is going on in the world? We might just as well take stock of what is occurring and face the facts. The three totalitarian powers have shown by their records that they have no respect for agreements and by their international lawlessness, they have shocked the sensibilities of the peaceful nations of the world.

"No doubt Germany has definite objectives in mind. If any of you should doubt that, I would point to the headlines of yesterday's papers which point out that she is attempting to secure an air base for military purposes. It would provide a hopping-off place for Canada or a base for interfering with our shipping to the Motherland."

Says Europe's Control Aim.

Germany, continued the Premier, was seeking the domination of Europe, and he warned that Hitler's plan, by his own written words, was to extend the German Empire to the Black Sea. Italy made no bones about her intention of making the Mediterranean an Italian sea.

"There is only one thing holding her back," said the Premier. "Italy is awaiting Franco's complete conquest of Spain, which would allow Italian guns to be trained on Gibraltar from behind, while German guns, already placed in position, could menace the fortress from across the straits.

"Then we have the Japanese menace. I found our own countrymen in New Zealand and in Australia filled with the fear of Japanese invasion. I was told quite plainly that at the time of the Munich crisis there were two powerful Japanese squadrons, one within 500 miles of the defenseless city of Sydney and one 600 miles from Auckland."

The Japanese, he said, planned in time to harness the manpower of China to her own advantage. "Therefore, we have now the possibility of invasion from the Atlantic, a possibility which has never before occurred. But there is an even greater danger, the danger of invasion from the Pacific by a power capable of mustering four hundred millions of people.

Believes Emergency Exists.

"I believe a national emergency exists," said the Premier with studied emphasis. "I have said we would await a definite pronouncement from the Federal Government at this crucial time and I don't want to be critical of the Federal Government at this particular time.

"I realize that this is a most difficult country to govern, with its various factions and different schools of thought. I speak as the head of the Government of Ontario and I now believe that if the Government of Canada does not consider itself in a position to make a declaration as far as open sentiment is concerned, we, as the people of Ontario, can at least do that."

Tremendous applause filled the House as the Premier made this statement. Members of both parties banged their desks.

Mr. Hepburn realized that the matter came wholly within the jurisdiction of Ottawa and he then read the resolution to the House.

"The passing of this resolution," he said, "will be a source of encouragement and a ray of hope to the people of the Motherland, who, after all have their backs to the wall, and a demonstration of loyalty to the Empire and of our affection to the Crown."

Colonel Drew rising, declared that he wished to associate himself "with every word the Premier has said," and declared that in this case, "it is a pleasure and a privilege to express my heartfelt concurrence."

"Whether the reflection of the opinion of this House will produce any practical results is far from the point," said the Opposition Leader. "What is important is to demonstrate to those forces which are seeking the destruction of the world that the British Empire stands together. It is in keeping with the tradition of this Province which has so many people who desire the preservation of freedom, that Ontario should never be found wanting.