DEFENCE POLICY

SIR T. INSKIP ON HIS **PLANS**

TRANSFER OF STATE FACTORIES

AIR FORCE EXPANSION

HOUSE OF LORDS

MONDAY, JULY 20

In the absence of the Lord Chancellor, the EARL of ONSLOW, Chairman of Committees, ook his seat on the Woolsack at 3 o'clock.

THE KING

MESSAGES FROM ABROAD

The EARL of ONSLOW said that the Lord Chancellor had received from M. Jules Jeanneney, the president of the French Senate. telegram, of which the following was a ranslation:

The French Senate has received in the was threatened yesterday. At this time, when your Sovereign is about to come to this country for the commemoration of the trials and glories which were shared in com mon by the two nations, the members of the Senate unanimously desire to convey to his Majesty an expression of their profound respect and to the British nation an assurbe grateful if you would be good enough to convey this message to the House of Lords.

The Lord Chancellor had received also a legram from the Italian Chargé d'Affaires ontaining a message from the Senatore erzoni president of the Senate of the Kingom of Italy, of which the following was a

The Senate of the Kingdom of Italy expresses through me its sentiments of proagainst his Majesty King Edward VIII and s most sincere congratulations on the fact that the life of the august Sovereign has been providentially preserved for the affection of his people.

The Lord Chancellor had sent suitable knowledgments to these telegrams.

BILLS ADVANCED

The London and North Eastern Railway endon Transport) Bill, the London and rth Eastern Railway (General Powers) Bill, d the Axbridge Rural District Council Bill are read the third time and passed.

JAPAN AND CHINA

PLEA FOR NEW BRITISH APPROACH

ved for papers.

League, of all those nations which were con- Italian Government were recently invited expansion on a growing scale are constantly use of this factory, and perhaps he will be actual position in the air expansion of other will, I believe, be in accordance with the wishes cerned in maintaining peace and good relations in the Far East would be the line on which we should develop, and nations not members of the League should be invited to sign such i a pact.

LORD NEWTON said that the case for the Japanese was far stronger than was generally realized. Japan had been very badly treated by Europe for the past 40 years. Our repudiation of the Japanese alliance was one of the most fatuous actions that we had perpetrated in recent years.

The termination of that treaty was so unfortunate because it hardened the Dominions in their extremely short-sighted policy of definitely excluding the Japanese from the immense tracts of land in their possession, for which, in coming days, the Dominions might pay dearly. We had turned a friendly and powerful nation into a potential enemy and there was nothing to show as a result of our action. This was a case in which we ought to exercise patience and negotiation.

'A NEW ANGLE" FROM CHINA

LORD ADDINGTON said that there was room for all in the Far East and the interests of Japan, China, and ourselves did not conflict. In a prosperous and united China lay the interests of the nations of the Far East and those of the West. It was in such cooperation in building up the prosperity of China that Japan would find her true outlet and at the same time win the esteem and gratitude of her neighbours. The patriotic movement in Japan had within itself an exemplary spirit of selfsacrifice and devotion

The position was treated from a new angle in a telegram he had received from Dr. H. H. Kung, Minister of Finance of the Central Government of China, Nanking. Dr. Kung said that the world to-day was in a state of chaos and degeneracy and disintegration because men were dominated by selfishness, jealousy, and materialism. Only the inspiration and guidance of a Higher Will could change human nature and conciliate men and nations so that there might be peace on earth and good will among men. He (Dr. Kung) pelieved that the principles and discipline the Oxford Group movement would help to bind all the nations together in that common greatest indignation the news of the danger with which his Majesty King Edward VIII urgently needed to evolve a new and better social order.

GOVERNMENT REPLY

POLICY OF THE " OPEN DOOR "

EARL STANHOPE, First Commissioner of Works, said that he entirely disagreed with ance of their faithful friendship. I should the view that China must go under either Russia or Japan. (Hear, hear.) They desired China Government. To suggest that Northern if he was now in a position to make any state-China was under settled conditions of in a condition of which any friend of China or Japan could approve was something they must disagree with. Conditions were so unsettled that the increase of smuggling was having an immense effect throughout China. Vast masses of goods were pouring in, and the Chinese Customs service had not been allowed to carry on, with the result that there was no method of checking this smuggling, It was hardly to be described as smuggling, because it had been given recognition by the anti-Communist administration, who now imposed a levy of a reduced tariff on these smuggled goods, and kept the proceeds for their own purposes. That was unfortunate, not only for China, but for every country which traded with China.

He agreed that there was ample room for all countries to trade with China, Russia was not in an aggressive mood, and was merely taking up a defensive position. A great deal of frontier along Mongolia and Manchuria was ill-defined, but if present proposals for the definition of frontiers could be agreed on they might hope that the incidents which had been occurring somewhat frequently of late might he prevented hereafter.

We had a considerable trade with China, and we could not in these hard times afford to give CARL PEEL called attention to the present up British trade in any part of the world, so that China was of considerable interest to us. sition of affairs in Northern China, and The view of the Government had been strongly throughout that they should endeavour The noble earl said that up to the end of to continue and improve friendship between e and was controlled by the Chinese, but in did not go so far as to suggest that they should last few months smuggling had gone on come to an agreement with Japan. The so large a scale that it could hardly be Government thought it would be difficult to

Government and the French and the Belgian Governments The Italian Government howthe question is, "Yes, Sir."

THE MONTREUX AGREEMENT

Mr. THORNE (Plaistow, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he could give the House any information in confortification of the Dardanelles.

Mr. EDEN.-I am happy to say that the text of a new Straits Convention. It is hoped that this new Convention will be signed this evening, but until it has actually been signed has been produced-namely, that his appoint-I should prefer to make no further statement. Moreover, as honourable members will see from the summaries that have appeared in the Press, the provisions of this Convention are posed upon the War Office, a load borne highly technical, and it would be difficult to state them adequately in reply to Parliamentary questions. I tam accordingly arranging Office, who most certainly have not spared to built the text of the Convention as a themselves in the performance of their White Paper at the earliest possible date, and arduous duties. The Director-General will when this has been done I hope to take an early opportunity of making a full statement

GROWTH OF ARMS

REASONS FOR GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr, SHINWELL (Seaham, Lab.) asked the Prime Minister whether he could state what was the special feature of the European situation which justified the Government in pursuing the policy of increasing armaments; whether the Government was in possession of information which supported that policy; and whether he could take the House fully into his

Mr. BALDWIN (Bewdley, U.).—This is not a matter which can be dealt with by question and answer, but I may say that the main features which justify the policy of the Government with regard to armaments are the growth of armaments in other countries and the general insecurity of the international situation.

FIJI LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

Mr. T. WILLIAMS (Don Valley, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies ment with regard to the proposed change in the Constitution of the Fiji Legislative Council.

Mr. ORMSBY-GORE (Stafford, U.),-Yes, Sir. As a result of representations made to me regarding proposed changes in the Constitution f Fiji, I have decided to recommend to his Majesty that there shall be a reconstituted Legislative Council consisting of the Governor. 16 official members, five European members (three to be elected on a communal franchise and two to be nominated), five Fijian members (all to be selected as at present), and five Indian members (three to be elected on a communal franchise and two to be nominated). The determination of the details of the new Constitution will necessarily occupy some time, and in order to provide an interval for this steps have been taken to enable the life of the existing Legislative Council to be prolonged until December 31, 1936, or such other date not being later than July 14, 1937, as may be fixed by the Governor by proclamation.

Replying to Mr. M. Jones (Caerphilly, Lab.),

Mr. ORMSBY-GORE said he had received many representations from the people of Fiji on the matter and, as a result, he had come to the conclusion that this was the best solution of a very intricate problem.

GERMAN OUTLAY ON ARMS

Mr. CHURCHILL asked the Chancellor of e by Germany purposes exper directly and indirectly concerned with military preparations, including strategic roads, might well have amounted to the equivalent of and management, will be mobble to prefer the manufacture of the properties of the properties of the management will be mobble to prefer the manufacture of the properties of the management will be mobble to prefer the manufacture of the properties of the management will be mobble to prefer the management will be made to the management will be mobble to prefer the management will be made to the prefer the management will be made to t

at Geneva on July 3, to take part in position. (Hear hear.) Here certainly is cause certain conversations with his Majesty's for confidence in all parts of the Committee. The party opposite certainly cannot complain of protest about the naval expansion, for are ever, declined. The answer to the last part of not they the people who have been contemplating a naval blockade? (Hear, hear.)

When I last spoke I referred to the War Office as having started on their programme later than the two other Departments, but it was through no fault, of course, of the Secretary of State. But in the course of the last two or three days an announcement has been nexion with the agreement reached by the made which I am sure interested the House various Powers in conference relative to the and is one of considerable importance: the announcement that Engineer Vice-Admiral Sir Harold Brown was to be appointed as the delegations of the Powers assembled at Director-General of Munitions Production-Montreux have reached agreement upon the a title almost as magnificent as my own (laughter)-in the War Office.

May I try and correct one impression that

ment is intended to relieve me or to extend to all three Services? He has been appointed indeed to help to carry the heavy load imwith so much devotion by the distinguished soldiers and the heads of branches in the War take over what I may truly describe as a going concern. He will find that the regular sources of supply are being used to their utmost capacity. It is quite a misapprehension which I find sometimes prevails, that until the deficiency programme was entered upon, there had been no normal production. It is true there was production on a small scale, but at any rate now what I describe as the regular sources of supply, the professional firms and others, have been and are now in receipt of orders on a yearly basis which will strain their capacity to the utmost.

SHELL SUPPLY

New sources have had to be opened. It is not so easy as some hon, members think to open new sources of supply for munitions. 1 say that not to excuse any delay, but that the matter may be seen in its true proportion. If I may take as an example one set of munitions which I mentioned last time, shell and shell components, there are certain firms of course that are accustomed to produce them. They know the technique, they are familiar with the processes, they have the plant, they have education.

But the new firms which are to undertake the completion of what is really a formidable programme have not only to be inspected but they have to be classified. They have to be examined for their capacity and they have to learn to understand and to operate the processes shown in the manuals that have had to be prepared. Draft heads of agreement have thinks that you can immediately increase the output of shell and shell component by running over the country giving an order to any engineering firm of experience can be but little familiar with the processes to which I have referred. I am happy to say that these pre-liminary stages, inevitable and elaborate as they are but still only preliminary, have been passed.

Fifty-two new firms have ben offered contracts for the supply of ammunition, and of those 52 firms, at any rate up to a date of 10 days or a fortnight ago, 14 have accepted term contracts. The rest are in process of making the technical examination of the processes and layout of plant which will enable contracts
I hope in almost if not all cases to be finally accepted, and when that is so, with the production of the Government factories, which of course are in production the whole time, the regular sources of supply and the new firms, seven-eighths of the total requirements of the Government in shells and fuses and cartridge cases will have been provided. That indeed is not an unsatisfactory result. It is quite true that we must take care that delivery and performance come up to promise,

FACTORY EQUIPMENT

That is a subject, of course, which has mer whether he we are that the received the most careful attention in the Department, and to some extent it will come constantly under my review. I have no reason to believe that the firms, all firms of good

by the Belgian Government, in accordance taking place. I am not aware of any anxiety astonished that his suggestion should find such ly like terms of the communiqué issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the terms of the communiqué issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the terms of the communique issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the terms of the communique issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the terms of the communique issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the terms of the communique issued in any quarter of the House as to the naval swift acceptance; but indeed it is a decision like with the communique is t which had already been arrived at before received his letter.

THE SUPPLY OF LABOUR

It may be asked what provision is going to be made for the additional labour when the further expansion takes place in the professional armaments firms or at Woolwich. Woolwich substitutes, or at this new factory at Nottingham. So far as Nottingham is concerned, pivotal men will be transferred from Woolwich Arsenal. The new demands there will, as experience shows, undoubtedly draw number of men skilled in engineering have possibly drifted away from the industry altogether, but have not lost their skill, and, together with the supplies of skilled men, if there be any, who have not yet found employ ment in the engineering industry, I hope and trust that by the time the factory is equipped there will be no difficulty in finding the necessary labour to bring it into swift production.

Mr. LOGAN (Liverpool, Scotland, Lab.) .-What type of engineer is referred to ?-Fitters

SIR T. INSKIP .- I imagine that both fitters and turners will be wanted in the production of guns at the new Nottingham factory. I will have some observations to make about labour and the supply of labour. I wish I could say that the man-power of the Regular and Territorial Armies was on the whole as free from anxiety as the question of manpower in connexion with munition production.
(Ministerial cheers.) My right hon, friend the Secretary for War has given facts and figures which I shall not repeat. Guns can be made and bought; thousands of searchlights for air defence can be produced; scientific aids may be brought to the assistance of the guns, but there is only one thing that cannot be obtained by this Government as the result of enlisting industry, and that is the man-power that must go behind the searchlight or the gun.

OPPOSITION UTTERANCES

One thing I deplore, I think with almost every one probably in this Committee, is the utterance of the right hon, gentleman the Leader of the Opposition. (Ministerial cheers.) My right hon, friend the Prime Minister made some observations about it on Saturday, shall say no more than this about it: the right hon, gentleman himself served in the Great War with distinction. He must be aware that some forces are inevitable; even under a Labour Government there will have to be some received orders in the past, and they need no microcosm of a Navy or Army or Air Force.

Mr. MONTAGUE (Islington, W., Lab.). Who said otherwise?

SIR T. INSKIP.-Let the hon. gentleman listen and follow what I am saying. I quite agree, "Who said otherwise?" The Leader of the Opposition has said that the Government would appeal to him in vain to support recruiting, because he mistrusts the foreign to be considered, and any hon, member who policy and the armaments policy of the Government. (Opposition cheers.) What does that mean? Inasmuch as it is admitted that there must be some Forces of the Crown, does the right hon, gentleman the Leader of the Opposi tion mean to punish the Government by sacrificing the men who have joined ? (Ministerial cheers.) Do hon, members mean to leave the crowded cities and the centres of employment and their own homes undefended and at the mercy of an invader because the right hon. gentleman distrusts our foreign policy?

Mr. THORNE,-Who is the invader ? SIR T. INSKIP.—The hon. gentleman will know who the invader is when his house is

bombed. (Ministerial cheers.) Mr. THORNE .- No one is going to attack

this country; we may attack someone else.

A STATEMENT BY MR. LLOYD GEORGE

SIR T. INSKIP .- Inasmuch as the right hon. gentleman on a well-known occasion was so much indebted to the right hon, member for Carnaryon Boroughs (Mr. Lloyd George) for stating his case, perhaps I may quote some observations which the right hon, member for Carnaryon P sughs made vesterdas. In the Sunday Ex of July 19 the righ gentleman said:

It is far easier for a strong country to attain its objects by peaceful diplomacy than a weak one. The only observation it is fair to make it that

It would not be proper for me to disclose any facts and figures with regard to other sion, whatever it may be. (Cheers.) I believe that is the decision of the country, whatever hon, gentlemen opposite may desire or think.

It is worth while considering what is the basis of such computation. The analogy of naval calculations is most misleading. When Mr. Churchill was making his historic speeches in 1912-13, his critics were comparing our naval strength with German naval strength ship by led many people into the error of comparing the figures of first-line air strength with regard to the Air Force.

That is a fallacious comparison. (Hear, hear.) In the first place it would be necessary to define first-line air strength in terms of reserves, for it is not always a phrase that is used in the same sense. But a better reason is that such calculations take no account of Great Britain's special position.

DEFENCE THE AIM

REPLY TO THE OPPOSITION

Defence is the purpose of this rearmament, and I repeat that over and over again. (Hear, hear.) Defence is the purpose of all our strategic plans, and that knocks the bottom, incidentally, out of what is now becoming a commonplace in the propaganda of the party opposite and in the Press, when they ask: What is the use of all this armament?' Its use is the defence of your homes, and of your food. (Hear, hear.) I have not the least doubt that, if ever unhappily trouble arose, hon, members opposite would expect to be fed like the rest of us. The object of this force is plainly defence and nothing else.

Having regard to the position of Great Britain, its strategic requirements as a whole have to be considered. Other countries may have a different balance of air force. An Air Force which we might possess, with an exact correspondence with this or that machine might be most unsuited to defend our shipping. our ports, our estuaries, and our homes. Superiority, or even equality, in air defence depends not on an exact balance of machine the forces used, with proper skill which is available

The Chiefs of Staff and the Joint . anning Committee have been making a fresh study which are an obvious necessity for naval and air cooperation, and on these plans depends our The Air Force must be devised not to fit in exactly with opposite numbers in the air I have often given mental assent—that the force of any other Power, but to fit in with the strategic plans devised for the defence of the country as a whole.

NEW TYPES OF AEROPLANES

There is another consideration. Hon members will agree that what they saw at Hendon or Hatfield shows that British constructors are not likely to lose the leading place which they have gained in aircraft construction. The expansion plans of the Government, even if you take them back to when the Air Force began to expand coincided with a great change in service machines. New types in design, taking advantage of more engine power, came into production, and to the pilot the serviceability of the machine is all-important. His equipment is

The equipment of the expanded Air Force must be that most suitable for the emergency which it is designed to meet, and I am in a position to say, happily, that the equipment of the expanded Air Force will be a new Suppose the expansion had taken product. place earlier. Mr. Churchill is fond of telling the Government that they ought to have begun this programme two or three years ago He may be right, but see what the consequences would have been. Our Air Force to-day would have been equipped with machines which would have been out of date may be dislocated, that there may be an for any emergency that they would have to interruption of the imports into this country. members opposite may laugh at that argument. deviate the food and shipping which may be I gather that Mr. Churchill is not fully aware necessary, and the capacity of the western

of the Committee

One word about recruiting. As in the Army so in the Air Force it is essential to provide Powers or to our own production, but it is for reserves and training, and although I must the Government's plain duty to make and to not give figures of reserves or the number of carry out a programme to match that expan- pilots it will be sufficient for me to say that 40 new aerodromes have been acquired or are being acquired and hon, members can read between the lines as to the number of personnel which will be required for these aerodromes. Let me give one indication of the expansion in aircraft production itself. I have compared to-day the first three months of this financial year, April, May, and June, with the corre-sponding period of last year, itself a year of ship. The simplicity of such calculations has great expansion, and the delivery is about three and a half time as many aeroplanes and over twice as many engines.

The Committee will not think for a moment that that is going to be the rate of increase for the future. It happens to be the expansion which has taken place when you compare the two periods, April, May, and June, in the two years I have mentioned. I say nothing about reserves. The question of reserves has recently been under my consideration in a reference to the question of the Fleet Air Arm, and had it not been for this debate I should have been able to have concluded the preparation of our report, but I hope that so far as the reserves of the Fleet Air Arm are concerned no future anxiety will be felt about them and our recommendations will, I hope, be brought forward in due course.

This is, I hope, not an unhopeful survey of the position so far as the Air Force is con-cerned, but I should like to say that the increasing rate of production with the tremendous improvement in design, has only been possible because of the close and continuous association of responsibility for design with responsibility for production. I say no more upon that topic at the moment, but it may be that if certain suggestions are repeated in the debate it will be necessary discuss a little further whether these proposals are consistent with that cooperation and close association of design with production which in my humble judgment is so indispensable to satisfactory performance.

FOOD SUPPLIES

I pass now to another topic altogether. It has been the work of the Committee, as hon, members know, to consider the question of the food supplies of this country. I have been with machine, but on proper adjustment of all reproached for stating more than once that I am considering this or that question in connexion with food supplies. I make no apology for it. Lord Haldane used to ask people to of the control and production of our merchant do a little clear thinking. Reflection before hipping. They have been concerting plans action is not the same thing as delay; it is common prudence. I have been faced with a demand in many quarters of the House—a perfectly reasonable demand, and one to which this country shall at once be increased. The fact is that, attractive though it sounds, if honmembers will give a moment's thought to it you have to lay down plans as to the terms upon which such stocks can be obtained, where they can be obtained, the places where they can be stored, and arrangements for their distribution in emergency. Hon, members will see that it is necessary to give more than a day or two's consideration to these numerous questions.

Mr. LAMBERT (South Molton, L.Nat.) .-Has that inquiry finished?

SIR T. INSKIP.-Oh no. I have been engaged with many hon, members this morning for some hours. We have collected a great deal of material and have taken important decisions, and our report will not be the end of the matter but will lead to a series of decisions which I think will secure the country an increased output of agriculture in emergency, which is necessary, as well as a sufficiency of supplies in all the essential foodstuffs and feeding stuffs upon which the country depends.

ORGANIZATION WORK

Much of the Committee's work is concerned with organization—bringing the plans up to date. We have to assume that trade in the future. (Laughter.) Hon. There must be an organization and control to

This smuggling was only one aspect of the general relations of spiritedisections of spiritedi whole Japanese problem was based upon suspicion, economic pressure, and a general feeling of isolation from the rest of the world. To some degree Japan seemed to be at loggerheads with this country, and feared that our and recently there had been an unfortunate assertion of our great historic rights in China incident there in which a British Indian subject might prove detrimental to her own interests. There was, however, a great deal of pro-British feeling, and lately there had been many feelers progress in friendship and agreement with thrown out in Japan in the direction of getting Japan more difficult. They did not prevent a general understanding between Japan and Great Britain. Could not the British Government approach Japan quite frankly, find out precisely what she wanted, and try to reach an agreement which would not only be acceptable to Japan, but would protect Chinese rights and dispel the cloud of suspicion which hung over the Far East ?

RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA

With regard to the relations of Japan and Russia, the anxiety Japan had felt for the last 140 years had been revived in recent years by the complete hold Russia had acquired over Outer Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan. As a result Japan had endeavoured to get Inner Mongolia and set up a buffer State Russia and Manchukuo. In view of Russia's preoccupations on her Western frontier, Japanese fears were possibly more hereditary than real.

But the attitude of the Japanese generals towards China was well calculated to drive China into the hands of Russia rather than to separate those two countries. China in the last four years had made remarkable progress and undoubtedly if she could be assured of a little peace the present Government there might make good. The raw materials, &c., that Japan required from China could be obtained by friendly agreement but China held that it was difficult to make agreements with lapan because of the latter's militarist attitude, So here again the feeling of distrust blocked the way to an economic arrangement between China and Japan.

Japan herself could not be very happy in her position of isolation. She had vast budgetary expenditure and huge expenditure on armaments because of that feeling of isolation and the intense desire for greater se-There was ample room for all in China if China could be relieved from fear of Japan. The question was whether we, in the strong position we had, or certainly used to have, in Japan, were not the people to tackle the problem. He did not think anybody else

LABOUR AND REGIONAL PACT to 3 o'clock.

LORD MARLEY said that the time had come when it was not possible to consider the Far East as a separate problem from the rest of the world. It had become closely associated with the European situation. The Japanese Government, militarist and semi-Fascist, demanded aggressive expansion on the mainland and in the Pacific. Their excuse was an outlet for their population, but it was a fact that the Japanese had never succeeded in colonizing any country. They claimed also that they wanted food and raw material for their people, but Japan was an exporter of food, and any nation wanting raw materials could buy them. Japan was perhaps justified in her expansionist de mands only on the question of markets, and the China market was the most accessible for Japanese products.

Japan had rather missed the boat in a part of her expansionist policy. If she wanted to attack Russia she had made a mistake in not attacking a good many years ago, because Russia had now become remarkably strong, There had been disturbing rumours in the last few years that there was a close understanding between Germany and Japan, and that the connexion between the European situation and the Far East might be more close than we suspected. That was a matter which must be watched, and which might have some relation to the recent agreement between Germany and Austria, which freed Germany for a movement long the Baltic. It gave her access through the Baltic States to the Russian frontier. A regional pact, within the framework of the

ent's desire to improve our friendship with Japan had not been encouraged by recent incidents. The Government of Manchukuo, which largely took its orders from Japan, had closed the door to British trade, and recently there had been an unfortunate and his wife were taken prisoner and only released quite recently. Such incidents made the British Government from persisting in their desire for such friendship and agreement, but, with the best will in the world, they could not afford to have incidents of this kind if they were to improve the friendship between the two countries and to get an arrangement satisfactory not only to this country and Japan, but also to China

A strong and stable Government in China, which would enable her to trade and to purchase goods, was in the interest both of the Far East and of the West. If we joined with other countries in assisting China to achieve that, it would be not only for the benefit of ourselves and other countries, but perhaps most of all to the benefit of Japan, whose trade with China was so vast. The Govern-ment's policy was not one of "wait and see." There was no idea of taking forcible action in the Far East, but the Government was out to help China to improve and stabilize her position and, in so doing, to improve the trade of the world. At this moment they had hardly reached a situation in which they could come to a conference.

Nothing was more fatal than to call a conference until a great deal of preparatory work had been done and conditions were favourable for bringing it to a satisfactory conclusion. A conference which failed was worse than no conference at all. The policy which the Government was pursuing was one of friendship with Japan and of endeavouring to assist China to build herself up once again into a position in which she was able to trade satisfactorily and widely with other countries.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn, The Air Navigation Bill passed through Committee with amendments and was reported to the House.

The Tithe Bill passed the Report stage. Their lordships rose at 20 minutes to

HOUSE OF COMMONS

MONDAY, JULY 20

The Speaker took the Chair at a quarter

The Manchester Ship Canal Bill was read a second time.

JAPAN AND BRITISH SOLDIERS

Mr. A. HENDERSON (Kingswinford, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he was aware of the criticisms made by an official spokesman of the Japanese Government in relation to the investigation at Peking into the charges made against two British soldiers; and whether he could make a

-I am informed that criticisms of the conduct of the recent investigation were made by officials of the Japanese Embassy in Peking, and reproduced in a local newspaper on July 4. His Majesty's Ambassador at Tokyo has been | bright spot. On the other hand it would be instructed to bring this matter to the notice of wrong if I were to lead the Committee to think the Japanese Government.

MEETING OF LOCARNO POWERS

LIEUT.-COM. FLETCHER (Nuneaton, Lab.) asked if Italy and Germany had been invited to attend conversations of the Locarno Powers; if they had accepted or refused the invitation, and, if they had refused, for what reason; and if conversations which took place nevertheless, be communicated to those Powers.

Mr. EDEN .- Invitations to a Five-Power

NAMED TO THE TRAVESTORY DAVE BY ASSESSED. figures, but from such information as they have see no reason to think that the figure mentioned in my right hon, friend's question is necessarily excessive as applied to either year although, as he himself would agree, there are elements of conjecture. (Opposition laughter.)

SITUATION IN SPAIN

Mr. ATTLEE (Limehouse, Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he could make any statement as to the situation in Spain.

Mr. EDEN .-- As the House will have seen in the Press, a revolt has broken out in Spanish Morocco and in Spain itself. Fighting appears to be taking place in a number of centres. It is not yet possible to obtain accurate information as to what is happening as communications are large nterrupted, but every endeavour is being made to keep in touch, as far as possible, with H.M. Ambassador and Contouch, as far as sular officers in Spain. No official information had been received of injury to British persons or property. Two of H.M. destroyers are standing by at Gibraltar in case of need.

DEFENCE

SIR T. INSKIP'S REVIEW

The House went into Committee of Supply, SIR D. HERBERT, Chairman of Committees (Watford, U.), in the Chair.

On the Supplementary Vote for £13,262 for expenses of the Treasury and subordinate are concerned the same is true. With regard Departments, and for the salary of the Minister for Coordination of Defence.

SIR T. INSKIP, Minister for Coordination of Defence (Fareham, U.), said:-This is the third occasion in eight weeks in which I have been required to make some statement apon which the Committee or the House could form an opinion as to the discharge of the re-sponsible duties which have been entrusted o me. It is gratifying at any rate to think that the Opposition are so keenly interested in putting our defences in order as to ask for this Vote to be put down for discussion.

But I think I may re-echo some words used by a First Lord of the Admiralty on a former occasion, who deprecated what he described as he habit which was then growing up expecting that every speech made on Navy Estimates must contain some momentous announcement. My right hon, friend who was then the First Lord of the Admiralty, exactly 12 months before the outbreak of the Great War, went on to say: --

There is in certain quarters such an insatiable appetite for new programmes that we are expected to produce them not once or twice but three times in a single year.

commend these observations to my right hon. friend the member for Epping (Mr. Churchill) Laughter.) These Estimates have already been discussed in Committee, but there are three new Supplementary Estimates which have been put down for discussion later this afternoon it ime permits. They are evidence of the swelling tide of production. They are pointers to fresh development of the Government's programme.

My task is to try to give a balanced account of what has happened since I last spoke. I have to try to give an impression which will be an accurate one-it can be no more than Mr. EDEN (Warwick and Leamington, U.). an impression, for if I pick out the high lights they would be deceptive. I hope I am as unng as anybody in the Committee to desire that a better impression should be produced by my choice of what may be regarded as the that there is nothing except that which is grey or black. I will try to give the Committee such an account as I hope will represent the true

THE NAVAL PROGRAMME

I may refer first of all to the naval programme, and I believe that I am justified in saying that there is general agreement as to the satisfactory character of the steps that have been taken up to the present time. Both in the absence of Germany and Italy would, in ship production and equipment and in personnel the reports are satisfactory, and while maintenance and replacement have been pro-Conference have not been issued. The ceeding in the normal manner, addition and Nottingham inviting my consider

start production at one, or have they first of or any other country. (Ministerial cheers.) It all to make the machinery and the machine is far easier for a strong country to gain its all to make the machinery and the machine tools and then begin production at some future

SIR T. INSKIP.—No; my right hon, friend is not to suppose that 52 firms who have been selected and may receive orders are lacking in the equipment or the experience necessary to carry out the orders. I am not saying for a moment that it may not be necessary for them, possibly with assistance, to balance their plant with this machine or that machine, but they are firms that are equipped and have been inspected and are suitable in every way for acceptance of the contracts which have been offered them by the War Office.

Mr. CHURCHILL.-This is very important ndeed, and I really must ask for an answer. My right hon, friend said "Suitable in every way for acceptance of a contract." Does he mean that they can accept the work and know all about it, and that they have at the momen the jigs, gauges, and machine tools and special plant to enable them to embark on special lines of work?

SIR T. INSKIP.-My right fon. friend speaks of jigs and gauges and machine tools. I am not going to say that in every case each of them has all the jigs which they will require for the purpose of performing their contract. Jigs are a means of carrying out a large order on what I may call a mass production scale If they have to deliver the articles within the time which they have agreed, no doubt they will either take the steps, or have taken the with their promise. So far as machine tools to gauges a very great advance has been made since I spoke on this subject eight weeks ago in the provision of the necessary sugges of all types and descriptions.

WOOLWICH FILLING FACTORY

TRANSFER TO NORTH AND WEST

Considerable anxiety has been expressed from time to time as to the Royal Ordnance Depôt at Woolwich. Approvat has been given for the transfer of the Royal Filling Factory from Woolwich in part to South Wales, in part to Lancashire, and in part to a place in Scotland, and in addition a filling factory at Hereford will be brought into full operation. I hope the Committed will think that these steps are not only wised designed but are steps which it will be possible to take in order to bring into the fullest production at the earliest date the various muniforms which are necessary. It may be said that to erect a factory at Chorley, or at Bridgeria in South Wales, is to postpone the day of production to a date distant 18 months or two years or 23 years as the case may be, but the decision of the Government to remove the factory is one which in my view was absolutely necessary and right, and the Committe may be assured that no time will now be lost in getting the necessary buildings erected at these places. place in Scotland, and in addition a filling the necessary buildings erected at those places.

The gun programme is obviously more of a specialist nature than the production of shells and cartridge cases and fuses. It is a part of the whole programme which I freely tell the Committee is one that make anybody reflect as often as he looks at the figures on the numbers required or the possibility of production in the near future. You cannot expect a firm that has been engaged in ordinary engineering to produce guns. To other things they may adapt themselves, but themselves, but the must be the product of the specialist fire

As in the case of other articles (Woolwich and the armaments firms are engaged in gun making not only to the full world capacity but to labour capacity. But in order that the supply of these very necessary a shall not be found wanting a former gu actory at Nottingham is being acquired sary additional equipment insta This is indeed an indispensable step in confection with the air defence of Great Britain am the more happy to make this and morement because only four or five days preceived a communication from the Town Clerk of tion of the

bjects by peaceful diplomacy than a weak one. Will the right hon, gentleman the Leader of the Opposition and hon, gentlemen opposite take that observation to heart when they are confusing questions of defence with the foreign policy of the Government?

Some day the right hon, gentleman the Leader of the Opposition may be calling for recruits, and this will be a bitter reckoning for him to pay if it is quoted in his face. I would ask the party opposite how they regard the events that have taken place in Palestine Would they have left that country in a state of disorder because they distrusted the foreign policy of the Government? (Opposition cries "Oh!" and Ministerial cheers.) Let me take another example. We know that 100 well-trained and disciplined Sikhs afforded a guard to the Legation in Addis Ababa. Would hon, gentlemen opposite have left the Europeans in that town to their fate because the Opposition did not like the foreign policy of he Government in connexion with Abyssinia? Ministerial cheers.) If anyone who is familiar with the course of events in Europe during the last 10 years will reflect upon the occasions upon which his Majesty's Forces have made a notable contribution to world peace they will see how impossible it is not to provide those forces with the arms they require.

UNITS FOR AIR DEFENCE

Let me come nearer home. Units for air defence are to be manned by the Territorial Army. One anti-aircraft Territorial division has been formed from existing anti-aircraft units and the conversion of eight Territorial battalions. An announcement sent out by the War Office appears in to-day's newspapers of Army and the Royal Air Force in searchlight exercises in Essex and Kent and around the Thames Estuary. Let hon, members opposite visualize what might happen. Mr. W. Thorne asked "who is the enemy?" Never mind who the enemy is. Let us visualize asked the Thames Estuary and the crowded centres of population, one of which he represents.

Mr. THORNE.—We are not afraid. You need not worry. I am not worrying. (Opposition cheers.)

Government to worry even about the hon. member. (Cheers.) If hon, members (Cheers.) opposite take no interest in their constituents, perhaps their constituents will take an interest n them. The Government are asking for an accession to the Territorial Force of men ever up to 50 years of age, and particularly those who have had some experience of gunnery, for the simple purpose—it has nothing to do with foreign policy—of defending their own homes and their own employment.

If anything is true defence it is our Air Force. The air expansion which has taken place in other countries rightly attracts general attention. The air is a new and an unknown factor in any future war. The development of machines and equipment is bewildering The performance now, contrasted with that three or four years ago, is amazing.

INCREASED DELIVERY OF MACHINES

The speed of machines in production to-day for regular use in the Air Force would five years ago have made them serious competitors for the Schneider Cup. That fact will bring home to the Committee the extraordinary advance that has been made. (Cheers.) These are not specimens, but machines in regular orderly production for the everyday use of the Air Force.

Mr. CHURCHILL.-Are they being delivered now?

SIR T. INSKIP .-- Yes, some have been delivered. They are in orderly delivery, and they will be delivered in ever-increasing numbers. The Prime Minister has repeatedly stated that the flexibility of our programme is of its essence. It is not a programme for the expenditure of so many millions or for the production of so many ships or guns. needs of the nation. He has said that information in the possession of the Government,

for the pilots who will fly them. Mr. CHURCHILL.—The right hon, gentle man's argument, carried to its logical conclusion, is that if we waited another two years we should have a more up-to-date Air Force

AIR FORCE EFFICIENCY

SIR T. INSKIP.-That is not the logical conclusion of my argument. Even if Mr. Churchill is right, and the Government ought to have taken notice of this two or three years ago, it is right that I should call the attention of the Committee to it, not as an argument for postponement but as some comfort, even though it may be cold comfort, as to the efficiency of the Air Force that will be created in the course of the next few years. If Mr. Churchill thinks that my argument is not suitable, I feel sure that he would never go to any young pilots and tell them that it is a matter of indifference whether they are armed with the most up-to-date machines or with obsolete machines

Mr. CHURCHILL.-That suggestion is not justified. For the last three years I have been urging that our pilots should be armed with the best machines that can be made and that they should be made as quickly as possible What is wrong with that ?

SIR T. INSKIP.-Nothing is wrong with that. The right hon, gentleman will acquit me of _iy desire to misrepresent him, but I think. in spite of all the interruption to which I have been subjected, I was entitled to bring home as forcibly as I could the fact that the new Air Force will enjoy this advantage, that it will be equipped with machines of design, performance, capacity, range, and swiftness which would not have been possible two or three years ago. The right hon, gentleman suggested that the logical conclusion of my argument was that you must delay another two years in a display for the cooperation of the Territorial order to get a still better type of aircraft. I recognize the importance of maintaining a lose watch on excellence of design and swiftness of production, but it is not always easy to keep the two objectives in their proper perspective.

AN ASSURANCE

All I can say is that there has been a real desire, which I think has been carried out, to avoid the danger which applies not only to aeroplanes but in my experience to guns and SIR T. INSKIP.—But it is the duty of the tanks which are required for the Army; it is the danger that it is not easy to secure a rapidity of output and also take advantage of improved design, increased engine efficiency, and new devices. But I can give this assurance to the Committee, that all possible steps are being taken to bring new designs and increased production into close connexion.

The process of first building an experimental prototype aeroplane and subjecting it to performance and service tests has been altogether abandoned. A new type as amended in the design stage has, after a brief trial in experi-mental establishments, been accepted in order to give production orders at the earliest possible moment and the possibility of delay resulting from necessary changes in first pro-duction types has been faced, but I am happy to say that so far such changes have been unimportant and it has been found well worth while to run the risk. The results have thoroughly justified the risks, and the new policy of production is most satisfactory in its effect upon the production of up-to-date machines at the earliest possible moment. The armament, the instruments, and the equipment of machines are dealt with in the same way. The objective of speed in production consistent with quantity is also kept in view.

THE FINANCIAL SIDE

PLEDGE AGAINST PROFITEERING

I pass now to say one word in connexion with the financial aspect of this matter. The Government has promised the country that there shall be no profiteering. Undoubtedly the desire of the Secretary of State for Air to keep that he was right in insisting on securing the representatives of the employers and the proper terms financially although it has slowed workers in their own industries. The existing

mar will be | no Committee," no matter how zealous, car answer within the space of a short tim... The Committee may feel that so long as they trust the Government these are questions which are being examined with a view to action being taken to safeguard these necessary supplies.

I pass to a short review of another action I have taken to keep touch with the essential questions of labour and material. I will not recite the number of associations and trade bodies which I have seen, but they include the British Engineers' Association. Machine Tool Trades Association, and the Alloy Steel Trade, and four or five others, all of them since I last spoke in the House, with every success. I have explained to the representatives of the industry the nature of the programme and the demand which will be made on their industry. I have taken counsel as to their capacity, and I have considered action to meet the difficulties with which they will be faced, and discussed with them questions of priority. In many cases Government Departments have assessed the total demands of the several Services, and that in itself is a task of no small importance. ORDERS FOR MUNITIONS

LETTERS FROM LABOUR MEMBERS

Proceeding, Sir T. Inskip said that hon. members opposite laughed at some of these statements. He would like to know why some of them had been so insistent in speech and letters addressed to him in securing orders for their constituencies. (Ministerial laughter.) He had with him a list of names-including those of one or two Front Benchers-of Opposition members who had besought him to place orders for munitions of war in their constituencies. There was no shame in asking that these unemployed should be brought in to the completion of the Government's programme-and of course they were going to be

With regard to machine tools there had been an expansion in home production. The firms were all fully employed and he had seen their representatives. They were not only producing to full capacity, but they were finding the recruitment of labour which was necessary to produce the skilled men for their industry In addition to that, in order to supplement home production imports had been increased The industry had taken steps to equip itself in order to meet the needs of the country.

Work had been undertaken to arrange that this country should have an ample insurance against emergency in the shape of raw materials. There were some raw material where war consumption was so greedy that it would be impossible to provide for the quantities needed in war-time even if they were to absorb all the available sources of supply that were open. The Government had had, and were still having, a very careful examination made of the different classes of raw materials with a view to securing a sufficiency of supply to provide against any emergency on the outbreak of a war. The production of the essential elements of explosives had been kept well in mind. A committee combining industrial and scientific experience was planning for the insurance necessary in connexion with what had been called the duplication of Billingham. The necessity of seeing that an important and indeed a key product which exists on the East Coast in a position where it was very assailable and vulnerable should be duplicated in a safer part of the country had been undertaken.

SUPPLIES OF LABOUR

He came now to the question of supplies of labour. His policy had been to let the employers' and workers' representatives combine in settling any trade or labour question in their own industry. He had had suggestions made to him that he should consult the great federations—the T.U.C., for instance. He hoped it would never be necessary to consult them, not because he would not be willing to see them, but because it would be indicative this promise in letter and in spirit has led to of questions which he would not flatter himis a programme which must be adapted to the delay, but I am sure the Committee will agree self that he would be as well able to settle as derived from many sources, represents the down the output. The settlement in the end policy had had one happy result at least. In

Parliament Continued from page 8

the engineering industry wage arrangements

of both sides of this great industry. The trade depression of the last few years had not made the recruitment of labour easy. Now they found that the launching of orders was attracting young men into these industries. It was a pleasing experience for him to be told that the old and wise practice of apprenticeship was being revived and expanded in some of these industries. Even where apprenticeship was not followed in all its legal formalities he was told that there was a supply of labour now coming forward under the powerful influence of orders that would cover a period of years, and appreciable progress was being made. There was no reason to suppose that industry would be faced with insoluble labour problems. He had great confidence in the elasticity and resourcefulness of British

THE SPECIAL AREAS

Members had asked for information as to the placing of Government contracts in the the House that the Government had done he gave of the progress of Royal Air Force special or depressed areas. He could assure their best to bring this policy into effect. The total value of Government contracts placed and prolonged unemployment, including the special areas, amounted to approximately £17,000,000 in the financial year 1935-36. The corresponding figure for the first quarter of the current financial year—from April to June—was already in excess of £7,500,000. That was a proportion for the first quarter of this financial year greatly in excess of the proportion allocated to the special areas in the

previous financial year.

In conclusion, Sir T. Inskip said:—My right hon, friend (Mr. Churchill) would sometimes like to relieve me of a part of my responsible duties. For such relief I should be most devoutly thankful, but in his zeal the right hon, gentleman adds a great load to my responsibilities. He faces me with the doom which will await me if trouble should come before these arrangements are complete. I make no complaint. If anybody thinks that the Government are mistaken in their policy he has a right to say so. But I have no doubt that the Government's decision to attempt the completion of this programme without destroying and dislocating the trade of this country is the right one. It is my duty, therefore, to hold the course which I think is right so long as it has the assent of the Government, as it has at the present time.

I do not know what attitude the Opposition intended to take with regard to this armaments programme to-day. At one moment they seem to contemplate a military display; at another moment they seem anxious to have peace at any price; at another moment it was disarmament and the next moment it was an order for munitions.

We cannot help feeling that the country sees through members opposite. They see the difficulty and the confusion into which they have got themselves. Sooner or later if they ever hope to govern the country they will have to make up their minds whether they are going to defend it. While they are making up their minds on that question I can assure the Committee that this Government intends to carry out that responsibility. (Cheers.)

REDUCTION MOVED

LABOUR AND "SECOND-RATE RESULTS"

Mr. LEES-SMITH (Keighley, Lab.), in moving the reduction of the Vote by £100, said that the broad impression made on him by the Minister's speech was that it was almost exclusively the speech of a Minister of Supply. The right hon, gentleman had spent his time | conditions. Was there exer a in initiating a kind of knockabout platform

ment's proposals and to ask for fuller informa-tion, he had supported, and would continue to support, the provision for defence that the Government thought necessary. But his vote on that Estimate and some of the other Estimates would depend on the answers to the engineering industry wage arrangements had been made which would stabilize the position for a considerable period. That was a tipute to the good sense and the public spirit ribute to the good sense and the public spirit in the public spirit in the public spirit in the public spirit in the good sense and the public spirit in the public spir armaments would never be used except in accordance with the Covenant of the League and that the Government recognized as an urgent duty the creation of a system of collective security under the auspices of the League so that British armaments would be used to uphold the rule of law against arbitrary

MR. CHURCHILL

AIR FORCE STRENGTHS

Mr. CHURCHILL said that when the Minister concluded his remarks he (Mr. Churchill) could not feel that hon, members had received any very large volume of new information. He could not feel that they had been taken into the confidence of the Government even so far as that would be possible without endangering the public interest.

He was not going to follow Sir T. Inskip except in one point-into the account which which the Minister presented of streams of new machines of the very latest quality pouring with firms in areas scheduled as suffering severe out of the factories to the squadrons of the Royal Air Force was one which he felt was based on a larger measure of anticipation than of actual realization. He was sure that some of the statements which the Minister made would be received not only with interest but with some surprise in the ranks of the Royal Air Force. He (Mr. Churchill) could draw a

very different picture. The Minister had said that if we had begun to expand our Air Force three years ago we should be worse off than we were now-that should be worse on that we were now—that we should be cumbered with a mass of inferior machines. This was an altogether new defence for the miscalculation which the Government had admitted in respect of the relative strength of the British and German Air Forces. If it were true, Lord Londonderry had been rather hardly treated. (Laughter.) Alas, he (Mr. Churchill) feared there was not much truth in the suggestion. If our aircraft factories had been set to work three years ago, albeit on the old type of machines, that would not have prevented the substitution of the new type for the old at the same date which was now operative. On the contrary the effect would have been exactly the reverse. If the factories had been thrown into activity they would have been all the more capable of taking the new types, and the transference would have been made with far greater facility and the deliveries would have flowed out in far greater volume at an earlier date.

"AN IMPOSSIBLE JOB"

But he had no quarrel with the Minister. Indeed, the Minister had his sincere sympathy because of the position in which he found himself. He had an office so absurdly constructed that the very conditions of his commission revealed a confusion of mind and a lack of comprehension in those who had defined it. He had allowed himself to become the innocent victim of responsibilities so strangely, so inharmoniously, so perversely grouped, and endowed with powers so cribbed and restricted that no one, not even Napoleon himself, would be able to discharge them with satisfaction.

The Minister's tasks comprised the coordination of high strategic thought on all our affairs by land, sea, and air, with which apparently was included also the enormous question of food supply in time of war; the securing of the punctual execution of the large programme-another existing very terrific task; and the planning and organizair so that if tion of British industry and to war-time need be it could spring quic conditions. Was there ever such an impossible

had spent his time job cast upon a single man inckabout platform. They had all heard the saying: "The Governey by whole standard a solitude and called it peace." The Governey by whole standard as solitude and called it peace.

high colleagues, both of whom have already come. prejudged the results of his inquiry in opposite directions.

LEEWAY TO MAKE UP

The Prime Minister, speaking near Cardiff on Saturday, said:-

on Saturday, said — For years we neglected our defences in the hope of general disarrenent. We did our best to bring disarranent about. Our hopes were disarpointed. We live in strange times when the head of Government, who through all this period has been the most powerful politician in the country and who, all the time, has been in control of enormous majorities in both Houses ready to vote any demand for defence which the Government have put forward, should be able to declare so suavely that we neglected our desences in the fond hope that others would do the same. But they did not do the same. They did exactly the opposite. Now we have the leeway of these fatal years to make up.

What I do not understand, even from the point of view of the Prime Minister, is why, when in the well meaning and sincere hope of disarmament we were neglecting our defences, he did not at the same time, as a measure of moderate prudence, make this comparatively small expenditure of £1,000,000 on machine tools now included in the Supplementary Estimate for Army? If the hopes of disarmament were frustrated it would have enabled us very rapidly to make up for lost time.

(Hear, hear.)
In past days the Home Secretary used to boast that the country was being carried to the edge of risk in disarmament. Surely it was not too much to ask, when we were running this frightful risk for whatever worthy and noble purpose, that at least some provision for a speedy recovery should have been made if our hopes were blighted. I do not blame this upon the Prime Minister. It is not his business to think of things like that, but ousness to times of things like that, but somewhere in your organism of State there ought to be machinery, some power, some force to bring this matter to the notice of the process of the state of the responsible authority. What confidence can we have in the Government? Is it not going too far to ask us to have blind confidence in the diligence and foresight in our defence organization when there was no one to come forward and ask for this small expenditure that is made here?

A SECRET SESSION?

DEPUTATION SUGGESTED

Have we satisfied ourselves, as former Parliaments would have done, of where we stand and of what is being done? I have scrupulously refrained in this debate from saying anything which is not obviously known to foreign countries. I have always been careful to make that my rule, but I and many others have a number of questions to ask which we do not be called upon to disclose certain information wish to ask in public. They are questions to which full answers could not be given in public.

We have statements to make which we should like to have answered, but not here Mr. Lloyd George during the War, Mr. Asquith declined it for reasons which were the same as are given now. But Mr. Lloyd George, when Prime Minister, had a secret session, and I believe I am right in saying that none of the evils which were forecast about it took place, and the Government emerged from it with a

sensibly enhanced advantage.

I am told that members will leak and that the Press will invent even if it does not hear. I believe that in dangerous times, once the public danger is made known, that we should be found not less worthy and capable of the handling of confidential matters than were the 'han to be absolutely stultified in a plea han to be absolutely summed in a seer, sion by the Government and proved to be an alarmist. I would endure with patience the roar of exultation that would go up when I was proved to have been all wrons, up when I was proved to have been all wrons, the control of the world with the world with the world with the world world world with the world w

He did not think Mr. Churchill's speech was helpful to the Government. That right hon, gentleman had never agreed with the Government in their appointment of Sir T. Inskip as Minister for Coordination of Defence and seemed to think that it was impossible for one man to undertake the duties which had been assigned to Sir T. Inskip. But the right hon, gentleman must not assume that the matter of defence, but what agitated many Sir T. Inskip was going to perform all the functions of interviewing firms, making contracts, and going into all the conditions accompanying those contracts. As to that Minister having no staff of his own, he had at disposal the staffs of every one of the Departments he supervised. He had not got to do all the work himself-had not to pull the shining leversbut to collect the views of his experts.

In homely words Sir T. Inskip would not keep a dog and try at the same time to bark himself. (Laughter.) What was required of him was commonsense, determination, industry, and ability, all of which they knew that his right hon, friend possessed. (Hear, hear.) Sir T. Inskip was doing all that his colleagues expected of him, though at times he might be exposed to disappointments, as had been people who had gone before When carrying out an enormous pro-

gramme there were apt to be hitches and setbacks, but there was every reason to be satisfied with the progress that had been made, and, provided there was no interruption by the unforeseen, they hoped to be able to produce munitions at a rate which would quite satisfy

Mr. Churchill.

THE SECRET SESSION As to a secret session which Mr. Churchill desired, they had had them more than once in time of war. But we were not now at war, and to his mind a secret session of the House could not be held in present-day conditions without at once giving rise to unauthorized rumours of what had taken place. (Hear, hear.) Speculation would arise as to what had taken place; rumours would become more and more persistent; there would be demands for an authorized statement, and then the whole country would be stirred up and told that the most frightful disclosures had been made. Both at home and abroad there would be entirely baseless and unfounded suspicions, which in the end would do a great deal of harm.

Then again the Government were invited to receive a deputation of which, he gathered, Mr. Churchill and some of his friends were to be members. The Prime Minister would never refuse to receive a deputation of his fellow members, but the proposed deputation would be of a special and unusual character. The suggestion was that the deputation should be allowed to put their point of view to the Government, giving certain figures of foreign armaments, and that the Government should

in their possession. Mr. CHURCHILL said it was desired to put certain things before the Government.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said that if there were things that the Government ought to know they would be willing to receive a deputation. before all the world. The times have waxed But to give information to a deputation which too dangerous for that. What, then, have we the Government could not give to the House to do, apart from going away on our holidays? would not be a right thing to do. He could There is the question of a secret session. I imagine that in a certain emergency it might be urged a secret session on Mr. Asquith and on possible for consultation to take place between ferent parties in the House, such communications as passed being deemed of a confidential tions as passed being usermed of a confidential character. But members who selected themselves could not expect to receive information from the Government which was withheld from the rest of the House. (Ministerial cheers.)

STATE AND ARMS SUPPLY

Mr. NOEL BAKER (Derby, Lab.) said he thought Sir T. Inskip had undertaken a were almost impossible to enable him to fulfil nanoung of confidential matters than were are almost only noted backer) was convinced rugged generations which built up this island's his job. He (Mr. Noel Baker) was convinced rugged generations which out the transfer of the transfer of greatners. Nothing would give me greater that until they had a real Ministry of greatners. Defence and a real Ministry of Munitions

was difficulty in putting questions about things on which hon, members felt great anxiety, and even if they put those questions the Government would have the same difficulty in answering them because to answer might not be in the public interest. Sir T. Inskip showed that there had been a great speeding up in hon, members was whether those preparations were adequate in view of what other countries

"SECRETS TO REVEAL" MR. ALEXANDER AND MR. CHURCHILL

Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab.) said he understood that Mr. Churchill had some secret information to reveal to the Government which he was not prepared to reveal to the House.

Mr. CHURCHILL.-No. I said I had some statements to make, and I thought it would not be in the public interest if they were openly made in the House.

Mr. LANSBURY (Bow and Bromley, Lab.) asked what there was to prevent the right hon. gentleman making a statement privately to the Prime Minister. Mr. ALEXANDER said that

Opposition had no secret information to give to the Government. If Mr. Churchill had any secret information it was his duty to give it to the Government. Either the Government were really genuine in their programme of rearmament, on information known to them, or their whole appeal to the House and the country on their rearmament programme was on a fraudulent basis. The Government which claimed to have rehabilitated the financial position, was rapidly leading the nation to financial disaster. Anyone who had studied the trade movements of the past few months knew that it was the Government's rearmament policy which had helped to increase the adverse trade balance, and unless we made a big recovery in the next six months at the end of the year we should have a very substantial real deficit on our oversea trade, The Government would not get support from the Opposition except on the one condition that any military expenditure was understood to be for the requirements of collective security and that there was to be no use of British armaments for a national policy, but only in support of the League of Nations action against an aggressor.

SIR A. CHAMBERLAIN (Birmingham, W. U.).—Not even in defence of our own country? (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. ALEXANDER .- The right hon. gentleman would be the first to realize that if we were wantonly attacked we should not be breaking the Covenant by defending ourselves. (Opposition cheers.)

SIR T. INSKIP'S REPLY SIR T. INSKIP said that collective security

imposed an obligation on the people of this country to realize that they were put in peril of heir land and Empire and must defend them. He would not allow that those on the Government side of the House had not been as active and earnest as Opposition members in supporting collective security. It was only a sens of unreasonable complacency that allowed Mr. Alexander to attack the Government as having security. (Ministerial cheers and Opposition members of Parliament with regard to the draft laughter.) Rather than discuss details of what Unemployment Assistance Regulations. would be done in circumstances which might arise it was better to go on quietly making their plans to the best of their ability. He believed that course was in the interests of the nation. Some little play had been made by Mr. machine tools. He thought he could satisfy him will have been supported by the could satisfy him will have been supported by the support of the NUR, and represent a country with will have been supported by the support of the NUR, and represent the support of the NUR, and represent the support of the NUR. Churchill with the £1,000,000 spent upon most difficult task inder conditions which on this. The money which had been spent and included in this supplementary vote was for Federation. the purpose of purchasing of what had been called a balancing plant or for the equipment of certain factories of certain contractors who after long and careful consideration of all the were undertaking some of the supplies re- facts in South Wales and in other parts of quired. common and in an probability in account the state open marrowing the group of persons in the house-there would be similar, and possibly even narrowing the group of persons in the houselarger, provision made. As to the stage reached hold from whom any substantial contribution and at the same t larger, provision made. As to the stage reached in the bomb-battleship inquiry, the draft of it the bomb-battleship inquiry, the draft of the bomb-battleship inquiry. The re-

The Committee divided, and there oted-the motion for

.. 155 reduction 320 Against .. Government majority - -165 The Supplementary Vote was agreed to by

331 votes to 65-Government majority, 266. On the Supplementary vote of £1,059,000 for the Navy, Mr. ALEXANDER moved a reduction of

£100, which was negatived by 323 votes to 134 -Government majority, 189.

The vote was then agreed to by 318 votes to 116-Government majority, 202.

The Supplementary Vote of £6,600,000 for the Army was carried by 312 votes to 113-

Government majority, 199. The Supplementary Vote of £293,700 for Royal Ordnance factories was agreed to.

The Supplementary Vote for an additional 5,000 men in the Royal Air Force was agreed to by 298 votes to 109-Government majority,

During the Division CAPTAIN GUEST (Plymouth, Drake, U.) sought to raise a point of little chance of Capta order. It was necessary for him to do so seated and "covered," and amid much laughter Viscountess Astor (Plymouth, Sutton, U.), who was sitting behind the hon. member, lent him her hat to put on. Captain Guest put on the hat for a moment and afterwards returned it to Lady Astor. He was then lent a top hat by another member and proceeded to put his point of order.

The Supplementary Vote of £11,700,000 for the Royal Air Force was carried by 287 votes to 97—Government majority, 190.

The Resolutions dealing with surpluses and deficits on Navy, Army, and Air expenditure 1934, were agreed to in Committee.

The House stood adjourned at 15 minutes to o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES HOUSE OF LORDS AT 3

Private Legislation (Procedure) Scotland Bill, Report, Education (Scotland) Bill, Midwives Bill, and Health Resorts and Watering Places Bill, Committee, Motions to approve Draft Orders relating to Aden, Burma, and India.

HOUSE OF COMMONS AT 2.45

Unemployment. Assistance Regulations.

COMMITTEES

COMMITTES

House of Lorden Special Orders: Banbury Gas.
Central Electricity Board (Portobello Land), Shefield
Gas, Draft Unemployment Insurance
(Ranomallors)
Gesaonal Workers) (Annemenat), Draft Unemployment
Assistance (Determination of Need and Assessment of
Assistance (Inemporary Provisions) Act, and Unemployment
Landing). Clearing Office (Italy), and Unemployment
Assistance (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1935. Orders.

WELSH M.P.S AND MEANS

The Minister of Labour received a deputation yesterday from a number of Welsh

One minor men Assistance regulation. The deputation was introduced by Mr. W. John, M.P., and the speakers included Mr. JAMES GRIFFITHS. M.P., Mr. A. HORNER, Country should cor president of the South Wales Miners' Federaciose the Suez Car president of the South Wales Miners' Federation, Mrs. PEARCE, representing the women's organizations in South Wales, and Mr. A. J. to lead us into sing senting trade unions other than the Miners'

The Minister, in reply to the deputation. said the draft regulations had been prepared particular types were not in Great Britain. He explained that the means nd in all probability in future test had been materially altered both by

CLOSING AT BAL

PROBLEM 0 VOTE

THE "SANCTION Candidates (Lieut.-Col.

Polling, T General Elec Sir A. Butt (U.) .. W. D. Lloyd (Lab.)

U. majority ...

The Labour Party 1 circumstances of the b and Tooting may hel to secure a seat whicl they have failed to w turned under the con Election, but deliber voting, which last we on a considerable so bination with an ole factors, hand over stituency to the Socia

Hard work and & by Colonel Dolan supporters are imp More than 2,000 k among the "remova and will receive their have also been made from Balham voters

on holiday Miss Sylvia Pankhu publication called the ! News, has sent a que candidates in the conte to Colonel Doland a

Chamberlain, M.P., in "A correspondent the answers given by to a questionnaire, w things, whether he wi sanctions against Italy of the Suez Canal.

appears to have replie

I trust that the Footing clearly unde thus raised in this Government led the its effort to maintain Covenant. This effort countries, and, as 1 of our own people, w their own or their war in which no na cerned. What the I

the fate of Abyssinia it cannot do now Government has fall flight. To maintain ment, or to extend the which finds no sanct League has recogniz withdrawn sanction

"What Mr. Mi Italian ships, could us in our recent dr. to go all lengths contribute would between Italy and wicked to carry revenge which Europe, with cor which no one can

time since the last War. The Minister had given no indication that he had put his mind to the immense and appalling problem of the coordination confected with the problem of the coordination confected with the problem of the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation of and support the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation of and support the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation of and support the detailed preparation of and support the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation of and support the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation and support the detailed preparation and support the primarily appointed with the problem of the detailed preparation and support the detailed preparation and support the detailed preparation and support the detailed the end of last year as a result of last open of Admiral to the Army Council as Directorences on retiring from his position as one of Admiral to the Army Council as Directorences on retiring from the Army Council as Directorences on the Army Council as Directoren mittee of Imperial Defence. It was a well-mittee of Imperial Defence are one of Imperial Defence of Imperial Defence of Imperial Defence on The Original Properties of Imperial Properties the chiefs of the Staffs Committee of the Comknown letter. Sir T. Inskip was appointed to departments was a fentative and in some ways be "Minister of Thought." Coordination necessary preliminary step to the coordination of the coo be "Minister of Thought." Coordination meant thinking, not spending. His speech had shown that there was no guarantee that expenditure was not outrunning coordination. The Minister would not be able to concentrate on the problem of coordination of defence so on the problem of coordination of defence so long as his mind was cluttered up with prob-lems of supply and so long as it was the mind of a Minister who had no staff of his own.

The estimates represented millions of pounds, and as a result of the lack of thinking and coordination those millions of pounds would largely be wasted and second-rate results would be secured.

It was rather surprising that we now took it for granted that there was no defence against air attack when, as a result of their experience in the War, the Germans made no air attack on London at all in the last six months of the War. The Minister of Defence was appointed to his present office because the Committee of Imperial Defence, the Chiefs of the Staffs Committee, and the Secretariat of the Committee of Defence had failed to solve the problem of the coordination of the Services. But the right hon, gentleman in his speech gave no indication whatever that he was dealing with that problem, and he could not deal with it if his mind was absorbed by questions of supplies, labour, and labour disputes with all that that involved. The disputes with an unat mat involved. The Labour Party's objections on that occasion were owing to the Minister's failure properly to envisage the real problems of his office; because millions of pounds were going to be wasted, and because the problems of coordination of defence were going to be indefinitely postponed. (Opposition cheers.)

LIBERALS AND THE DANGER CALL FOR MORE

INFORMATION SIR A. SINCLAIR (Caithness and Sutherland, L.) said that it would be a poor service to Britain and to world peace if Britain were allowed to sink into a position of inferiority, relatively, to other Powers who were rearming. (Hear, hear.) He regretted that Sir T. Inskip had said virtually nothing about what had been entrusted to himnamely, the coordination of our defences. Let them have the truth stated in that debate the truth of which Sir T. Inskip spoke on public platforms as being the best assurance of public support, and there he (Sir A. Sinclair)

agreed with the right hon, gentleman. Let them have a clear and accurate exposition of the dangers which the Government's plans were designed to meet and let them know the scale of the Government's preparations and a more clear indication of the role which was assigned to each Service. He thought it would help recruiting in both the Territorial and the Regular Army if the Government gave a clearer idea of the role which was to be assigned to those forces.

assigned to Dominions been consumed.
Had the Dominions been consumed they fully approve the Government's defence they fully approve they actively cooperating with plans? Were they actively cooperating with the plant of the pla Had the Dominions been consulted ? Did the Government in carrying them out? If so, in what direction was that cooperation being given? What were Ministers doing about the integration of our defence forces with those Coordination of Defence came forward with asked to do that onless the Covernment countries of other forces been considered? How could a plan for an inquiry. At the beginning of first tell them and the country the nature, of other forces been considered? How could a plan for an inquiry. collective security possibly involve the British last week Lord Hailsham deprecated even the Empire in greater risks than its geographical filling of our existing granaries at the ports

talk of another European war than at any the main priorities in all classes of munition time since the last War. The Minister had production should be separated from all func-

General of Munitions Supply and the rehad no doubt whatever that after further prolonged, costly, vexatious, purposeless, and insensate delays a Minister of Supply would be appointed, and that then there would be another equally injurious set of delays in clothing him with adequate powers.

GERMAN ARMAMENT

Recalling Mr. Baldwin's words that if we were attacked by a combination of Powers the youth of the nation would spring to arms, Mr. Churchill asked what would happen if there were no arms for them to spring to. The House might take as correct the figure he had given previously of £800,000,000 as Germany's expenditure on arms in 1935. That figure had been easily accessible for nearly a year past. Nothing like it had ever been dreamed of. He did not think it should have been for a private member to bring to the notice of Parliament a fact of such gravity and pregnant significance. The country had a right to be advised of the scale on which rearmament was proceeding as much as a year ago on the Continent:

There was an increase of £75,000,000 towards making up deficiencies in our armaments. That compared with a sum of £500,000,000 for expansion in Germany if one deducted from the total of £800,000,000 £300,000,000 for upkeep.

Everybody is going away for the holidays (said Mr. Churchill). When we come back we shall be looking forward to the Coronation. Do not forget that all the time those remorseless hammers of which General Goering spoke are descending night and day and that Germany, the most warlike and in many ways the most efficient people in Europe, are becoming welded into a tremendous fighting machine equipped with the most fearful agencies of modern science.

CONFIDENCE SHAKEN

Proceeding, the right hon, gentleman said: We are told. "Trust the National Government: have confidence in the Prime Minister. with the Lord President of the Council at his side. (Laughter.) Do not get too much alarmed; a great deal is being done; no one could do more." All the influence of the Conservative Party is being used through a thousand channels to spread this soporific to Parliament and the nation. But has not confidence been shaken by various things that have happened and are still happening

When we met in January we asked for more destroyers, and the demand was voiced from all quarters in the House. We were assured that there was no need for more destroyers. Now, after six months, in which new naval facts have come to light, we are to have more destroyers. It is very satisfactory to the House of Commons, and it ought to give the House more confidence in its own opinion than in the opinion of these high authorities which in January will say one thing and in July will present an equally cast-iron conclusion, backed by the same solid consensus of

expert authority. (Hear, hear.) Take another instance—the question of food supply. When the House became very anxious a few months ago about our existing granaries a catastrophe was to be averted. He agreed that it would be no service to world peace if the agreed as speech at Southampton in which he against this country? That would be a made a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? That would be a made a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? That would be a declared that if our seaborne supplies were declared that if our seaborne supplies were intercepted we should all be dead of starvation he Minister in the Minister in the Minister is to the Govern-to-the declared that it out to the Govern-to-the made a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country? The would be a speech at Southampton in which he against this country?

so, I make this request on behalf of myself and a number of my hon, friends who are supporters of the Government: Will the whether we were Dispared to take part in Prime Minister, of course, with any of his any great wars on the Continent. If so, he colleagues concerned, receive a small deputa- said, were we to take part in them with our colleagues concerned, receive a small deputation, composed of hon, members who have lesered many years in this House, if possible served many years in the House in the served many years in the House in the served many years in the House of the served many years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with our land forces or only years in them with following condition of secrecy: that nothing said by the Government not already known Army. to members of the deputation shall be disclosed or made use of in any way?

There is a recent precedent for this procedure. Before the last election Mr. Lloyd George put forward a scheme for dealing with unemployment. He was received by the Government on many occasions, allowed to unfold his ideas, and Ministers discussed them with him for five or six sittings. Now I ask that the Prime Minister should receive a deputation of a dozen members and allow them to lay before him the information in their possession and to raise questions which we think it unsuitable to raise at this juncture in the House of Commons in open debate.

Concluding, Mr. Churchill said he had tried to show that the efforts which the Government small fraction of what was going on elsewhere. Force and the two with regard to the Naval So far as this year was concerned, and he fared also so far as next year was concerned. Air Service would not prejudice consideration. feared also so far as next year was concerned, we should not overtake them, but would fall further behind. That did not apply to the Navy, but to the other two Services. In those circumstances, we had a right to say that conditions of emergency had supervened. He did not ask that war conditions should be established for the production of munitions. All he asked was that the intermediate stage between ordinary peace time and actual war should be recognized, that a state of emergency preparation should be proclaimed, and that the whole spirit and atmosphere of our rearmawhose spirit and aunospirite of our rearma-ment should be raised to a higher pitch, and that we should lay aside a good deal of the comfort and smoothness of our ordinary life. that we should not hesitate to make an inroad upon our industry, and should endeavour to make the most strenuous efforts in our power to execute the programme which the Government had in mind at such pace as would make them relevant to the ever-growing dangers that gathered around us. (Cheers.)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S REPLY

THE GOVERNMENT AND INFORMATION

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said that Mr. Lees-Smith had found a new reason for opposing the Government's proposals for rearmament. because he said we had not yet brought about coordination of defence and the result was that in all probability a large part of our expenditure would be wasted. But the right hon, gentleman did not show how the money which the Government were now spending on armaments would be wasted, whatever answer was given to the problems he had raised. Sir A. Sinclair had recognized that a strong nation was able to exercise greater influence in preserving peace than a weak nation, and he said that in any case he would vote for whatever proposal the Government might think necessary to preserve the safety of the country and fulfil our international obligations. But he said that the Committee should not be Coordination of Defence came forward with asked to do that unless the Government could What storm centre was there in on the ground that they might become targets man seriously expect that we should get up situation: what storm centre was there in on the ground that they might become targets man seriously expect that we should get up of an air attack, and he assured us that we here and consider all the potential enemies that the world in which vital British interests were the end of the the Admirally in mame them, and assume that any armaments they might now be building were to be used to in which he supplies were 1 Lof starvation he Minister 1 Lof starvation he Minister 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the manufacture of the Minister 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen, continuous to the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen with a certain the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen with a certain the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen with a certain the supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen with a supplies were 1 Lof starvation hen with a certain the supplies were 1 Lof starvation here. The supplies were 1 Lof starvation here 2 Lof starvation h not involved?

The race in armaments should be stopped if a catastrophe was to be averted. He agreed a catastrophe was to be averted. We agreed the catastrophe was to be averted. The race in armaments are the first Lord of the Agreed the first Lord

I daresay that the Government will not be tendencies were angerous in the extreme. It they were to face the realities of the present able to agree to a secret session. If that be strong.

Mr. AMERY (Sparkbrook, U.) asked

Our defences against air attack should be based on an entirely different plan. The object of an enemy air force would not be men but material, such as dockyards, railway stations, and factories. Our defence system against such attack should be based on the same plan. It should not be faired in battalions, brigades and divisions as though it were to be occupied in land warfare. It should be organized dock-yard by dockyard factory by factory, railway station by railway station.

AIR FORCE AND THE NAVY

SIR R. KEYES (Portsmouth, N., U.) said that Sir T. Inskip had made it clear that the inquiries of a limited nature which he had been conducting into the relations of the Royal Air of the wider question of the dual control of the Naval Air Stylee, The present situation was thoroughly insatisfactory. It was detriwas thoroughly finsatisfactory. It was detri-mental to naval fliciency and to the ability of the Admiralty exercise sea power. He hoped that the dinister for the Coordination of Defence word be given a free hand to re-open this question. He was confident that any impartial flighty, under the chairmanship of the Minister, gould result in the Navy being given freedom to develoo its Air Service and given freedom develop its Air Service and

given freedom it develop its Air Service and once again to grow its wings " which were so cruelly pinion in 1923.

Mr. MANDER (Wolverhampton, E., L.) said he did no lihink the views expressed by Mr. Churchill Sout the danger of the German menace were well all exagerated. It was not sufficient for str. Inskip merely to coordinate the three Services. What was also required was expordination and linking un

sufficient for a services. What was also required was goordination and linking up with the Servic of all other countries which were working as the service of all other countries which were working as the service of all those who wood work that system. The only said that swinning was going on in regard to buying land for erodromes. There seemed to be some lease, in which certain persons knew months head what ground was going to be chosen and then up went the price. Those persons ere all loyalists who waved the Union Jack in their robbed everyone.

WAY TO AIR EFFICIENCY

WING COMMANDER JAMES (Welling-WING CUMANDER JAMES (Welling-horough, U.) Feid that so far as the air was concerned he and not think Mr. Churchill's charges agains the Government were well founded. The eight hon, gentleman had over-estimated the immediate air danger from the estimated the immediate air danger from the closest potential aggressor. The slow building up of a reality beint Air Force with the latest types of machines was going to put us in a stronger position than if we had followed the right hon. For man's advice. He hoped Sir T. Inskip would give the Committee some information; the very vital matter of the strategic sides coordination.

Mr. KIRO OOD (Dumbarton, Lab.) said he was emi wered by the chairman and general secre by of the Amalgamated Engineering Unit to state that there was no such girections of the characteristic forms of the characteristic for the conditions as a british of engineers in Britain, it was true to there was difficulty in getting skilled engines, and one reason was the scandalous of they received.

SIR H. P. SE CROFT (Bournemouth, U.), referring 105.8 amonth of man power, said



COLDER YOU.DRINK IT, THE