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The hoses that beat the Blitz, and 6,000 of the men and women behind them, took a fireman's holiday at the great Hyde Park Civil Defence parade - the largest ever held in Britain. There to receive the congratulations of the Prime Minister the 6,000 represented 200,000 recruited in London alone, - themselves but a fraction of the civil defence army that holds the fort throughout the country. Women too have shown heroism and devotion for which the rest of us can never be too grateful. It cheered them to learn that in the past few weeks alone we have dropped half the weight of bombs on Germany that they dropped here in the whole war.

At the luncheon afterwards, held at the County Hall the Premier warned Germany that there is more to come.

PREMIER'S SPEECH:

Forces, the

under
L.V. "I have no doubt whatever, as I said to the civil defence forces in Hyde Park this morning, that the behaviour of the British people in this trial gained them conquests in the mind and spirit and sympathy of the United States of America which swept into an ignominious corner all the vilest strokes of Goebbels's propaganda.

Mr
T.U.
SU.
G.V. "...and when after the enemy wearied of his attack upon the capital and turned to other parts of the country it is no extravagance of speech to say that many of us in our hearts felt anxiety lest the weight of attack concentrated on those smaller organisms would prove more effective than when directed on London. X However, the staunchness and vigour of London was fully matched by the splendid behaviour of our ports and cities (cheers) when they in turn received the full violence of the enemy's assault.

S.V.
"We ask no favours of the enemy. We seek from them no compunction. On the contrary, if to-night the people of London were asked to cast their vote whether a convention should be entered into to stop the bombing of all cities, the overwhelming majority would cry: 'No, we will mete out to the Germans the measure, and more than the measure, that they have meted out to us.'" *apm*