

THE PRIME MINISTER. 2559141MR. BALDWIN TALKS ABOUT THE GENERAL ELECTION.

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There are a million good reasons why you should support the National Government. They are to be found in the homes, where owing to the trade revival, a million bread-winners are now drawing a regular wage, instead of searching for work.

The Government's first aim is to keep that trade revival in being, but I warn you that the opposite will happen if confidence is shattered by political upheavals.

Our second aim is social improvement. Our housing and slum clearance campaigns are already far beyond anything that has ever been attempted before. We must push ahead with them, and in addition we want to build up a fitter nation by expanding our health and educational services.

Above all we desire to go on working to maintain world peace and strengthen the League of Nations, but it is clear from recent events that both our own influence in the world, and that of the League itself will be weakened unless we make good the gaps in our defences.

I will never stand for a policy of great armaments, but I will give you my word, and I think you can trust me by now, that our defence program will be no more than is sufficient to make our country safe, and enable us to fulfil our obligations. That much we must have.

We are passing through a difficult time. The country needs well tried experienced men at the helm. It is no time for a weak government. The nation cannot afford to embark on reckless experiments which would take us back to the days of financial crisis.

To-day our country is leading the world on the path of progress and national recovery, and let us once again unite to keep her in that proud position.