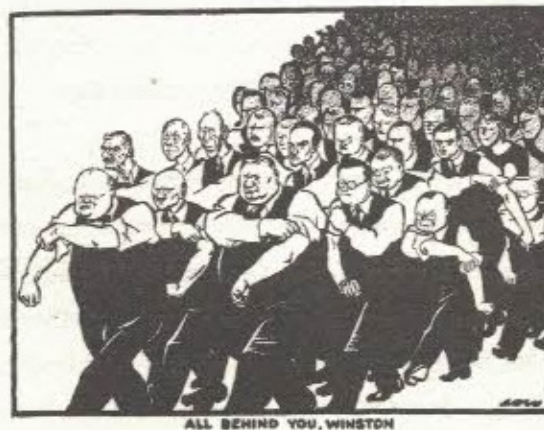


The next words in Winston's speech have become very famous: ". . . I said to those who have joined this Government: 'I have nothing to offer but blood, **toil**, tears and **sweat**.'" Winston said there were very difficult times ahead, which would continue for many months, and, of course, people wanted to know what the government was going to do. He said, "You ask, what is our policy? I can say: it is to [fight], by sea, land and air . . . What is our aim? I can answer in one word: it is victory . . ." Without victory, he said, it would be the end of Britain and the British Empire. However, said Winston, he was sure that it would not be the end of Britain and that Britain would not fail. He finished by asking everyone to join together and help: ". . . I say, 'Come then, let us go forward together . . .'"

Winston's speech was just seven minutes long. Today, that speech is thought to be one of the greatest speeches ever made in politics. When Hitler made a speech, he said "I" and "me" a lot, but Winston always said "we" and "us" in his speeches. In this way, he made the British people feel he was with them and on their side. He could not promise victory, but he gave his listeners hope. But on that day, some people in Parliament did not think his speech was strong enough. Winston was disappointed because he had worked very hard to prepare it. However, Winston's old friend and ally, Lloyd George, the Liberal prime minister who had guided Britain to victory in the First World War, then made a speech thanking Winston and supporting him strongly.

Winston did not have to worry about what the British public

thought. The ordinary British people loved his speech and were happy with their new prime minister. Many newspapers also supported him. One newspaper showed a picture of a crowd of men following Winston, with the words "All behind you, Winston" under the picture. Meanwhile, Winston and the War Cabinet met again to discuss the latest reports from the war. The War Cabinet met in special War Rooms under Whitehall in central London, where they received telephone reports about the war and discussed their plans. Winston informed the meeting that he thought the Germans were going to attack Britain by air. Everything was now happening very quickly in Europe. Three million German troops were marching across Europe, with another two million German soldiers ready and waiting back home.



"All Behind You, Winston" cartoon, published in the *Evening Standard* newspaper, 14th May 1940