

tered over a territory about 4,000 miles wide. No matter how much we may prefer to fight our battles in Europe—and I hope they will never have to be fought in Canada—we must keep a certain number of men in our own country if we are to carry on at all. So in our international relations regard must be had to that fundamental consideration.

In the second place, Canadians always think on these matters in terms of Europe, looking to Britain and France as our mother countries, but at the same time recognizing that we are as American as the Americans. To a large extent our affections incline towards Britain and France; but our business instincts are wholly American. I believe that that statement is as true of our people in Ontario, or Quebec, or the Maritimes as of those in the Western provinces. However that may be, in this struggle we as Canadians will put the needs of Europe in the forefront. I am not so critical of the present government and the extent of its efforts in Korea as I would have been had those efforts been made in Europe. But I repeat also that we are as American as the Americans, and when we criticize something the Americans have done, we should remember that we are in effect criticizing ourselves, since our reactions are very much the same as theirs.

In the third place, I would say that the future of the world will depend mainly on the efforts and the success of the United States. While we note her mistakes and shortcomings, let us never forget that the United States believes, what we believe in—freedom, and the supreme importance of the individual.

These are three of the propositions I have set down on the subject of international affairs. I notice that in another place an amendment has been moved in criticism of our government for having voted for the United Nations resolution to declare China an aggressor. I want to say that on this question, as far as I am concerned—and I hope I speak in this matter for the whole Conservative party, not only in this house but outside as well—we are one hundred per cent behind the government.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear,

Hon. Mr. Haig: If we denounce aggression when it is pursued by some small state, and ignore it when the offender is one of the great nations, there is something wrong with our mentality.

My fourth proposition is that the world struggle with communism will be fought out in Europe; and in the supreme task of saving the world from the kind of slavery which Russia is practising, we must stand foursquare with the people of the United States.

Perhaps, although it is contrary to good manners to do it in a debate of this kind, I may be permitted a personal reference, because this is a subject which deeply moves me. I think that our country stands at the cross-roads, confronting a great evil. I do not want to alarm anybody, but I hope all Canadians will realize that if the world is to be saved for freedom, and all that it means to the individual to live in a free country, we shall have to make a supreme effort. My readiness to support Europe may be partly due to the fact that three of my grandparents came from Scotland and one from Ireland; that my wife is of Scottish birth, and that one of her grandmothers came from France. So our roots in these old countries are deep, but not so deep as they are in Canada. Canadian boys went with credit through the last struggle, and we believe that if those of the present generation are called upon to face another conflict, they will give just as good an account of themselves as the generation which served from 1914 to 1918, and their successors who served from 1939 to 1945. Speaking for my party in this house, and for myself, I say that we will do everything we can to assist the government to make the best possible effort. We shall indulge in no carping criticism. We shall support them wholeheartedly. If the government make mistakes we shall feel free to point out those mistakes, but we shall do so as friends, in a spirit of good will.

I ask all honourable senators to show the same attitude to the people of the United States. Speaking personally, I want the American people to feel that we Canadians are behind them to the utmost. They may make mistakes; it may be—I have no doubt about it—that the British are more experienced in diplomacy, and that the French might have done better in that respect. Yet the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Prime Minister of France, after their visits to Washington, have told the world that the United States are ready to give them full support. I believe that we Canadians are regarded, particularly by the people of Britain and France, as best fitted to act in the role of interpreter and to advise them as to their attitude towards the United States. And if we want the cause of freedom to win in the world, we have got to stand shoulder to shoulder, not only with Britain and France, but with every other free nation, and do our best to drive back the invader if he should attempt aggression.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson: Honourable senators, I heartily echo the compliments and the kindly references to the virtues of the mover and the seconder. Of