

leaders will cooperate with us and that their followers will cooperate with their leaders. I am told that it is difficult to make arrangements because the leaders cannot speak for those who sit behind them. We have of course to leave all hon. members due freedom. I hope, however, that hon. members will find it possible among themselves to determine who are to take part in the discussions so that we may get on as rapidly as possible.

Speaking on the pleasant side still, I wish to express a word of congratulation to the hon. members on both sides of the house who have represented Canada at the different conferences that have been held during the last half year, or in fact throughout the past year. I refer now particularly to the delegation to the United Nations Assembly, both in London and in New York. As hon. members well know, the delegations were selected from members of the government and the opposition, as well as from members from both houses. It was an experiment. It was something being tried in Canada I think almost for the first time, with the exception of the delegation to the United Nations Organization meeting at San Francisco. But it is an experiment that so far has been with credit to all of those who participated in the delegations.

It is only right I should say at once that so far as Canada is concerned, I am sure that this country has appreciated the manner in which the several representatives worked together and in one voice expressed Canada's foreign policy at those conferences.

I should like to say a further word before six o'clock in regard to the one voice which it seems desirable our country should aim at in all that relates to its external affairs. I have not had a chance until today to express appreciation of the statement presented by my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. St. Laurent) with respect to Canada's participation in the settlement of peace with Germany. I want to say at once that it was heartening indeed to see the leaders of the different political parties rise in turn and to hear them express with unanimity their agreement with the principles underlying and features of that particular statement.

What has been equally satisfactory or possibly even more satisfactory is that throughout Canada from one end of this country to the other the statement has been endorsed by men and women of all political parties. I believe it expresses the unanimous feelings of the people of Canada with respect to what

are the rights of our country to be represented in an effective way in all matters that relate to the settlement of peace with Germany.

In the last war our country made an all-out war effort. It was not a conditional effort; it was not a part effort; it was an all-out effort in every direction. In what was contributed by Canada's armed forces, by the army, navy and air force; in what was contributed in the way of munitions; in what was contributed in the way of food; in what was contributed in the way of money; in what has been given in mutual aid; in what has since been advanced in the way of credits, and in contributions of food, clothing and shelter for destitute people; in every direction the people of Canada have put forth an utmost effort to make the largest possible contribution that our country could make to help to further the freedom of the world.

That effort was what it was for two reasons. First, we were anxious to bring the war to a conclusion as speedily as possible. We felt that the greater our effort was, the more rapidly would the war come to an end, and that the number of lives lost would be diminished accordingly. The other reason was, and here I can speak with very full authority, that we might have an effective voice in the making of the peace.

I say that I can speak with authority. As hon. members well know, during the period of the war one question that was continually arising in cabinet and which had to be settled was: How far are we going to go in this direction, or how far are we going in that direction? I say today that, I think, on every occasion the cabinet went as far as they believed it was possible for Canada to go and sustain the efforts which she was undertaking.

That was the contribution that Canada made toward defeating the enemy which was seeking to dominate the world. We were fighting to prevent two countries from dominating the world, and we do not now wish to see any one, two, three or four countries dominate the peace. We know that some countries have larger problems to face than others. We know that the Big Four have interests to consider beyond any of those which other countries have to consider. We know also that the countries immediately surrounding Germany have problems which to them are of very special concern. But we know also that the whole purpose of the peace settlement is to help make peace permanent in the world. And we know that Canada, in what she has done in international negotiations up to the present, is in position