

could be achieved between the British commonwealth of nations, the United States and Russia, all our problems, however difficult, can be resolved." He did not say Great Britain, the United States and Russia; he mentioned the British commonwealth of nations. In October of last year, while in Russia, Mr. Churchill said:

I hope most earnestly and I believe with deep conviction that the warrior statesman at the head of Russia, through these years of storm and tempest will bring his country into the sunlight of a broader and happier age for all, and with him in this task will march the British commonwealth of nations and the mighty United States of America.

Here again Mr. Churchill did not use the term Great Britain; he was very careful to say the British commonwealth of nations. But our Prime Minister has maintained throughout that this great power must be the United Kingdom alone. On July 20 of last year he was asked in this house about the meeting at Dumbarton Oaks. He was asked who were to be the four great powers represented there. This was his answer, as it appears in *Hansard*:

The purpose of the meeting is that these four powers may consider the development of a general plan of world security. There will be only the four powers at the meeting.

Then the leader of the opposition asked whether it was to be understood that the British commonwealth was included in those powers, or just the United Kingdom, to which the Prime Minister replied:

The four powers are the United Kingdom, the United States, the U.S.S.R. and China.

The actual fact is that the third great power in the world to-day is not the United Kingdom but the British commonwealth. There have been almost a million young Canadians in the forces, hundreds of thousands of Australians and thousands of New Zealanders and South Africans, as well as something like two million from India. So that between three and four million men who have been fighting in this war under the British commonwealth did not come from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The government's policy has been and is to-day based upon a false premise, with the result that now Canada finds herself in a humiliating position. But she can still get out of it. The way to get out of this humiliating position is not to shout for a seat for herself on the security council and to give more trouble in that way. The way for her to get out is to ask that in the charter provision be made for a permanent seat on the security council for the British commonwealth rather than for the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

I am sure there will be no objection to that request in Great Britain. I have here a dispatch from Great Britain dated March 2, and reading as follows:

Third leg of the massive tripod that is to sustain this structure of world order has to be provided by British power. Resources of this small island are inadequate for this, and only world-wide cooperation by the British commonwealth can be regarded as sufficient. Sovereign freedom of each dominion is no bar to action in peace, with similar concert as in war.

Thus if Canada makes this request, and if it is granted, Canada, still with a seat on the assembly, will be sitting in permanently on the security council, where the important decisions are being made. She will be sitting in as a very important part of one of the three greatest world powers, playing a vital role, making her greatest possible contribution to world peace, taking the place won for her by her sons on the field of battle, on the seas and in the air, in all parts of the world, and working with the other nations of the commonwealth as a team, in peace, as we have done in two wars. We would be taking our natural position.

The former prime minister of Australia put it very clearly the other day. A press report makes this statement:

Former Premier Menzies in the house of representatives in Canberra described as unwise and dangerous the tendency of the British commonwealth to meet as units and not as a team in the international conferences, like that of San Francisco. It was more important for the British dominions to aim at a common front than insist upon their independence, which nobody challenged.

But no, none of that for this government! The Dumbarton Oaks plan ignores the fact that there is a British commonwealth of nations, despite the fact that that commonwealth of British people stood alone against the aggressor for nearly a year, with only the help of little Greece. It stood alone and saved civilization. I believe the Dumbarton Oaks proposals ignore the existence of the British commonwealth of nations at the suggestion of this Canadian government.

The Prime Minister's plan to get Canada out of the humiliating position into which she has been put by his own policy is to set up a new group of nations. He wishes to have great powers, the middle or secondary powers, and the small powers. I am reminded of the fairy story about Goldilocks and the three bears—the big bear, the middle-sized bear and the little bear. The government wants Canada to be a middle-sized nation. Then, it wants those middle-sized nations to get more rights and a preferred position over the small nations.