

declaration is dated May 16, 1944, and it will give the house in a broad way what I think will answer any questions that may be in the minds of some hon. members:

We, the King's prime ministers of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, have now for the first time since the outbreak of the war been able to meet together to discuss common problems and future plans. The representative of India at the war cabinet, and the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, have joined in our deliberations and are united with us.

At this memorable meeting in the fifth year of the war, we give thanks for deliverance from the worst perils which have menaced us in the course of this long and terrible struggle against tyranny. Though hard and bitter battles lie ahead, we now see before us, in the ever-growing might of the forces of the united nations, and in the defeats already inflicted upon the foe by land, by sea and in the air, the sure presage of our future victory.

To all our armed forces who in many lands are preserving our liberty with their lives, and to peoples of all our countries whose efforts, fortitude and conviction have sustained the struggle, we express our admiration and gratitude. We honour the famous deeds of the forces of the United States and of Soviet Russia and pay our tribute to the fighting tenacity of the many states and nations joined with us. We remember indeed the prolonged, stubborn resistance of China, the first to be attacked by the author of world-aggression and we rejoice in the unquenchable spirit of our comrades in every country still in the grip of the enemy. We shall not turn from the conflict until they are restored to freedom. Not one who marches with us shall be abandoned.

We have examined the part which the British empire and commonwealth of nations should bear against Germany and Japan, in harmony with our allies. We are in cordial agreement with the general plans which have been laid before us. As in the days when we stood all alone against Germany, we affirm our inflexible and unwavering resolve to continue in the general war with the utmost of our strength until the defeat and downfall of our cruel and barbarous foe has been accomplished. We shall hold back nothing to reach the goal and bring to the speediest end the agony of mankind.

We have also examined together the principles which determine our foreign policies, and their application to current problems. Here, too, we are in complete agreement. We are unitedly resolved to continue, shoulder to shoulder with our allies, all needful exertion which will aid our fleets, armies and air forces during the war, and therefore to make sure of an enduring peace. We trust and pray that victory, which will certainly be won, will carry with it a sense of hope and freedom for all the world. It is our aim that, when the storm and passion of war have passed away, all countries now overrun by the enemy shall be free to decide for themselves their future form of democratic government.

Mutual respect and honest conduct between nations is our chief desire. We are determined to work with all peace-loving peoples in order that tyranny and aggression shall be removed or, if need be, struck down whenever it raises its head. The people of the British empire and commonwealth of nations willingly make their sacrifices to any cause. We seek no advantages

for ourselves at the cost of others. We desire the welfare and social advancement of all nations and that they may help each other to better and broader days.

We affirm that after the war a world organization to maintain peace and security should be set up and endowed with the necessary power and authority to prevent aggression and violence.

In a world torn by strife we have met here in unity. That unity finds its strength, not in any formal bond but in the hidden spring from which human action flows. We rejoice in our inheritances, loyalties and ideals, and proclaim our sense of kinship to one another. Our system of free association has enabled us, each and all, to claim a full share of the common burden. Although spread across the globe, we have stood together through the stress of two world wars, and have been welded the stronger thereby. We believe that when the war is won and peace returns, this same free association, this inherent unity of purpose, will make us able to do further service to mankind.

Winston S. Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada.

John Curtin, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Peter Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

J. C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa.

Now I turn from a consideration of European affairs to speak for a moment of Canada and the pan-American union. That is a subject that has been brought up at different times in this house. During the debate last year on the estimates of the Department of External Affairs, and since then from time to time in public discussion, reference has been made to the pan-American union and in some cases the opinion has been expressed in favour of Canadian membership in that union. The constitution of the pan-American union confines membership to the twenty-one American republics. Some alteration would therefore be necessary in the present terms of membership before Canada could be admitted. A prerequisite to any action by Canada would of course be the reception of an invitation from the present members for Canada to join the union. Quite apart from these technical and formal aspects of the situation, I am convinced that Canadian participation in such an organization could be based only upon a wide general appreciation in this country of the purposes and responsibilities of the pan-American union. I am not convinced that such appreciation now exists. A recent sampling of public opinion on the subject of Canadian membership revealed that very many of those questioned do not know what the pan-American union is. It might perhaps be suggested that those who favour our participation might best serve their cause by helping

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]