

*United Nations Agreement*

in the Pacific was concerned. But it was a terrific awakening, and again the pride of that great nation realized the seriousness of the situation, and the position into which the world was getting and that war or peace in the world was part of her responsibility.

It does not mean, as has been so well said, that we expect to have everything accomplished in a perfect manner. No one expected that the conference would turn out a formula which would say to the world that we shall never have another war, that the solution of all our problems had been found. It was the wish of every representative there, as it was the wish of all people, that they would find ways and means so that never again, if humanly possible, shall we have to go through the horrible experience of the last war. However, we must take certain situations into consideration so that we shall not fall into the same pitfalls into which the nations fell from 1918 to the beginning of the war just finished. For instance, it seemed that the great nations, generally speaking, have learned very little from the last holocaust.

In reading the speeches I had the feeling that national sovereignty, absolute and unimpaired, was still pretty much the watchword of the great nations. There is an old French proverb which says, "plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose". Surely the nations of the world must have learned from what happened in the past. More than that, all nations were just as jealous of their so-called national right as ever before. Sovereignty cannot any longer be absolute, and interdependence must be the keynote of the modern world. There is no getting away from that fact. Surely what happened to Holland, what happened to Belgium, what happened to Norway, what happened to all the neutral nations, to Luxembourg, and so on who thought they were safe from the great power of their neighbours, must be a lesson to all the smaller nations. They must realize, and they realize very, very bitterly after their crushing, just how unsafe they were. There is no doubt about it that the moral atmosphere of the united nations conference was far from conducive to renunciation. We have the right to expect, and I should say that we all expect the nations to understand the implication of that principle or else there will be some danger for the future. In many instances it was more a case of acquisition. Again I repeat these words with all the sincerity that I possess. I believe that I am expressing the sentiment of the common people in my own section of Ontario, people who have suffered during the present war and the previous war, people who

[Mr. Bradette.]

at the bottom of their hearts wish and pray every day of their lives that never, never again will we have another war.

After all, it was really a meeting of the victorious powers. There is no getting away from that fact. And to prevent future aggrandizement it was limited exclusively to the states that had entered nations to defeat the present enemy. Again I repeat that the nations of the world, as individuals, learn through errors and mistakes.

Personally I should like to see Switzerland among the nations at that conference. Switzerland has accomplished wonderful work during the whole war. For many years she was practically the only intermediary Canada had, not only through the Red Cross, but also with respect to international problems. I should like to see Sweden there. No doubt Sweden was in a delicate situation. Sweden really showed that she was a democracy. No one can doubt the fact that Sweden always acted as a democracy. I could mention other nations, and I know our own delegates would have liked to have them included with the other nations at the San Francisco conference. It is true that the final document will give those nations the right to take part in that organization, and at the same time they will likely have to come there with hat in hand, which is not a very happy situation for a small nation or, in fact, any nation.

I just wish to say one word about Russia. Unlike a good many people I can never forget what the Russian people have done for civilization and for the freedom of the world. I can never forget the many millions of young Russian lives that were nipped in the bud in fighting for our cause and also their cause. It is true that she had to fight for her own life, but in doing so, she also helped our cause. It is true that sometimes the people are baffled by what is happening, as for instance by some of the statements made at the San Francisco conference by Mr. Molotov. In one of his first speeches he said he thought the primary objective of the conference should be to prevent and suppress the spread of fascism. As far as I am concerned I hate and detest fascism. At the same time, during the last few years that word has been given such a wide application that in it one could almost include anything. One could take in socialism, liberalism, fascism and even communism, so that we must be very careful to make these distinctions. It is the duty of the governments of the world to make their peoples realize that they should be very careful not to refer to fascism in other nations