

who is a minister of the Government, that everyone on this side of the House heartily endorses Canada's acceptance of the invitation extended to her by our friendly neighbour to attend this very important conference. The very fact that people of different creeds and colour are to meet there will have a tremendous influence not only at this time but for generations to come. I sincerely trust that the high expectations of the delegates will be fulfilled.

A charter is to be prepared. I do not know what that charter is going to contain, but certainly it will be directed towards peace and the prevention of wars. I hope that the agreements that would become necessary, should Canada and the members of the United Nations ever be called upon to contribute their share to sanctions or armed force, will be drawn at San Francisco. There is a feeling on the part of people who have followed the proceedings of Parliament thus far that if the five big powers and the six non-permanent members, after long and thoughtful negotiation, should decide in favour of sanctions or armed enterprise, too long a period would elapse before their decision could be submitted to the Canadian Parliament. If Parliament were not in session, several months might pass before approval could be given.

I hope the honourable the Leader of this House is going to San Francisco, and I would suggest to him that all preparations should be made to expedite agreements providing for assistance to threatened nations, so that there shall be no delay in meeting any request for assistance, no matter what government may be in power. Such a request might be for sailors or ships, as the honourable Leader has stated; and everything should be in readiness so that Parliament could act promptly.

It has been truly said that there will be a great difference between the Assembly to be created at San Francisco and the old League of Nations. I am in favour of the Security Council, and I am sure that when the delegates go to San Francisco they will have the strong support not only of the Parliament of Canada but of the people as well.

I do not need to go into the details of the organization of the Security Council. That has been dealt with very well indeed by my honourable friend opposite. There is, however, a certain weakness in the fact that if one of the great powers was considered an aggressor—my honourable friend has just raised the question—and the other powers wanted to intervene, after all grievances had been well ventilated, the accused power could say "No," and no further action would be taken.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE.

An Hon. SENATOR: That would be the end of the Security Council.

Hon. Mr. BALLANTYNE: No, I would not say that. It would be better if what I have pointed out were not so, but we have got to accept this whole scheme in good faith. The three great powers have fought gallantly shoulder to shoulder in this war. They have done wonderful things together and, as I said a moment ago, in a very short time we are not only going to defeat Germany, but also Japan. We have trusted our allies in war; we must also trust them in peace. If we do not have the Security Council I do not know what other organization could be set up to take its place; so naturally we must accept it.

May I return for a moment to the delay that might occur between the time that Canada would be called upon for certain assistance and the time when Parliament would meet? I failed to mention that my honourable friend and one of his colleagues do not take exactly the same view. As I have it from the press, the Honourable Mr. Crerar had this to say:

Commitments for quick and certain punitive action against an aggressor nation must be written into the charter of the world peace organization if it is to be effective.

And in another place he said:

The aggressor will have to be dealt with quickly and effectively. It is much the same as a fire brigade in a municipality. If a fire were to break out on one of the streets of Ottawa, it would be poor business if the City Council had to be called together to decide whether or not the fire apparatus should be sent out.

So I hope that if my honourable friend goes to San Francisco he will exert his great influence to try to bring about quick action in case of necessity. I have nothing more to say on that question, except to express the hope that the results of the conference will fulfil our expectations.

There has been considerable talk in certain quarters about the United Kingdom emerging from this war a weakened nation. I do not altogether agree with that view. From a financial point of view and from the point of view of manpower that may be so; but as honourable senators well know, she will come out of this war without having lost an inch of her vast territory. If she gets the loyal support of the overseas Dominions, and of India and the colonies, she undoubtedly will make up the export trade and the domestic trade that she has lost. She will not lose her position as a great power, and in time to come will be, I hope, greater and stronger than ever.

Our delegates to San Francisco will, as always, desire to stand by the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and the Empire in every