

seriously consider an isolationist policy, that no nation could hope to withstand any great-power threat to its own security by means of its own resources. Not only could the proposed United Nations supply an additional measure of security to a middle power like Canada, but it could also enable Canada to affirm its status in the world as it demonstrated a willingness to fulfil its obligations to the organization. These factors were clearly in the Prime Minister's mind at San Francisco as he pleaded for a greater measure of responsibility to be accorded the lesser powers.

While the war was still in progress, the Government had created an Advisory Committee on Post-Hostilities Problems. By 1945 Canadian ministers and officials had a clear idea of the new kind of international order that would meet Canadian requirements and of the tactics to be employed in pursuing Canadian objectives in the prevailing climate of great-power rivalry. Although it was apparent that the emergent organization would not be all that they had hoped for, by being prepared for the negotiations they were in a position to make a contribution outweighing Canada's importance as a power.

The League had been denounced as a mechanism to enforce an unjust peace because its Covenant was an integral part of the Treaty of Peace signed at Versailles in 1919. The Charter was drafted before the cessation of hostilities in 1945, and it looked to the future without regard to maintenance of the *status quo*. It was designed for keeping the peace, not making it.

From the League of Nations Covenant the United Nations took over the idea that aggressive war was a crime against humanity and that it was the duty of all member states to join in measures to maintain or restore international peace and security. The Covenant was the first multilateral treaty to incorporate the idea, now universally accepted, that the community of nations had the right to discuss and pass judgment on the international conduct of its members. The United Nations Charter went a good deal further, reflecting an increased awareness of the interdependence of states. Thus, the Charter forbids the use of force