

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Prime Minister Curtin and Lord Halifax have not the authority to issue invitations to join an imperial council.

Mr. ADAMSON: The Prime Minister and government of this country definitely turned down those proposals. They were merely suggestions advanced as possibilities, and the Prime Minister went out of his way to say that they would not work, to damn them not with faint praise but with very loud condemnation, and he continues to do so to-day.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I will not argue with my hon. friend, but I should say that the whole business of exactly what was intended is very nebulous in some particulars.

Mr. ADAMSON: It may be very nebulous in the mind of the Prime Minister, but I believe it would serve a very practical and useful purpose in the future of the world. If we continue the policy of the past we are going to find ourselves exactly where we were in 1936. That is the danger I see, and it is a definite danger. It is high time that Canada took a wider and more comprehensive view of the problem facing the united nations.

Mr. MacLEAN (Cape Breton North-Victoria): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman is reading his speech, which I believe is contrary to the rules.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): Order. The point of order having been raised, I should like to read citation 314 of Beauchesne:

It is a rule in both houses of parliament that a member must address the house orally, and not read from a written, previously prepared speech, for the reason that "if the practice of reading speeches should prevail, members might read speeches that were written by other people, and the time of the house be taken up in considering the arguments of persons who were not deserving of their attention."

I hope the hon. gentleman will not continue to read his speech.

Mr. ADAMSON: Mr. Chairman, I had to read a great many quotations, and that is why I was following my notes rather carefully.

Mr. GRAYDON: You are only following the example of the government, anyway.

Mr. DUPUIS: And even the example of the leader of the opposition.

Mr. GRAYDON: Then I am in good company.

Mr. ADAMSON: I shall endeavour to follow your injunction, Mr. Chairman, but in conclusion—

(Mr. Adamson)

Mr. DUPUIS: Perhaps he will go faster if you let him read it.

Mr. GRAYDON: Leave the hon. member alone. I think he has as much right to make a speech as anyone else.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): Order. The hon. member should not be interrupted.

Mr. ADAMSON: Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman.

In conclusion, I want to discuss the question of Germany which, as I have said, has definitely become a Canadian problem. Twice during our life time we have been wantonly and ruthlessly attacked. Certain things are happening to-day on the continent of North America, and particularly in Canada, of which I think the public are unaware. Many suggestions are being put forward as to what to do with Germany after the united nations are victorious, and the book market is being flooded with literature advocating various measures which should be taken. A large proportion of this literature is from the pens of Germans. They may be anti-Hitler and anti-nazi, but they are still Germans who cannot forget, no matter how much they may try to profess having done so, what one of their writers has said:

Folkdom is much greater than citizenship in a country. Even if one gives up or is compelled to give up one's citizenship, one does not have to give up one's folkdom.

That was written by Franz Fahnemann in a recent book.

Mr. MacLEAN (Cape Breton North-Victoria): Mr. Chairman, we are getting tired of listening to essays read in this house.

Mr. ADAMSON: I am reading a quotation from this book, Mr. Chairman, and I suggest I am perfectly in order in doing so.

Mr. GRAYDON: I should like to see a little fairness on the part of hon. members here, Mr. Chairman. I know you are doing the best you can, but hon. gentlemen opposite are interrupting all the time. The hon. member is making a good speech and should be allowed to continue.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): The hon. gentleman was reading a quotation, which was quite in order. The hon. gentleman's time has expired, but he has been interrupted a good deal.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Give the hon. member a fresh start.

Mr. ADAMSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman; I have been interrupted a good deal.