

pared to accept the Treaty because I believe that it offers a workable plan, and I believe that the whole of humanity should rally round its best men, and have faith. We need faith; we cannot do it without faith. If we are all throwing cold water on it, if we are all calling upon titled gentlemen in England to pour tubs of cold water on the project, it cannot be a great success. We must have faith.

Is there any objection to the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Shelburne and Queens (Mr. Fielding)? I cannot see that there is. I cannot see why it should not be accepted. It merely puts in due and proper words the interpretation which the Government speakers themselves have placed upon Article X. I propose to vote for the amendment, and I trust it will carry. If the amendment fails to carry I shall vote for the Treaty.

Mr. CHARLES G. POWER (South Quebec): Mr. Speaker, the document we are considering really consists of two separate documents which, to my mind, should be absolutely distinct. But, as I understand it, they have to be considered as an entity. The Treaty of Peace itself has this, and perhaps it is the only thing, to recommend it: It has ended the four and a half years of disastrous war. The League of Nations is another matter. It not only binds us, but future generations, and may have a great effect upon the future of our country.

Bearing this in mind, and not wishing to be misunderstood, I want to state to the House that there is no man within it who holds war in more utter abhorrence than I do. I feel, and I have always felt, that the conditions under which modern war is carried on are so brutal, so degrading, so subversive of all the best instincts of humanity and decency, that every conceivable effort should be made to put a stop to it for ever, and that he or they who shall accomplish this laudable object will be justly entitled to be hailed as those sent by Divine Providence to rid the human race of a curse to which it has been subject from remote antiquity. It is in this frame of mind that I have studied the documents before us. I have looked upon the events which are happening throughout the world.

At the Congress of Vienna in 1815 the nations of Europe, after a war second only to this one in its horrors and in the blood-thirstiness with which it was waged, came together and in congress decided that there was to be no more war. The words used at that time by the statesmen of England,

of Russia, of Prussia and of Austria bear a remarkable resemblance indeed to those used by our statesman at Versailles in the last few months. We were to have a reign of peace and goodwill throughout the world. We were to have nothing but good-fellowship and happiness and prosperity throughout Europe. The history of the hundred years which followed the Congress at Vienna, scarcely a page of which is not stained by the recital of some lawless aggression, scarcely a chapter of which does not disclose some black treachery, shows how bitterly those statesmen were disappointed. Nearer to our own time we have the Hague Conference, the originator and founder of which was the first ruler to mobilize his vast armies for the bloody conflict through which we have just passed. Even to-day although we have signed the Treaty of Peace, and thirty-two nations have solemnly entered into a covenant to form a League of Nations, yet when we look about us we are forcibly reminded of a historic occasion at the beginning of this century, when a great French statesman rising in the House of Deputies cried "Peace reigns in Warsaw." And so it did, but at the same time the streets of Warsaw were paved with the mutilated corpses of those whose only fault was to have loved their country and whose only crime was to have fought for liberty. To-day, when the Treaty of Peace is signed half the world is at war. We have a dozen wars in Russia. We have the Poles fighting the Ukrainians. We have the Roumanians at the gates of Budapest defying the League of which they are a member. We have the Slavs and the Italians fighting one another in the streets of Fiume. We have the Serbs attempting to quell a rebellion of our Allies the Montenegrins. We have the Armenians abandoned by their natural protectors and left to the tender mercies of the barbarous Kurd and the unspeakable Turk. We have in China 400,000,000 people who are only prevented from expelling Japan from its stolen territory by the fear of superior force. We have Japanese massacring Christians in Korea because they dare imagine that they might recover their usurped independence. We have English sinking ships in the Baltic, and British officials being murdered and British troops using machine guns in the streets of Cairo. And so on. The world is at peace, and so the world is safe for democracy, with Christians massacring Jews in Poland and white men burning negroes at the stake in free America. Would, for the sake of hu-