

dream too many utopian dreams. This is a world of reality and it will not be put right by people who only talk peace. If it is put right it will be by people working at the job of keeping peace and fighting, if necessary, to preserve it. There is no other royal road to peace.

I have great hopes for Canada in this post-war world of international opportunity. We have the areas; we have the resources; we are peopled with as hardy, ambitious and industrious men and women as any nation on the globe. Because of that, the challenge to this nation and to every one of us becomes the greater. There has been nothing to excel the Canadian sailor, soldier and airman in the experience of two world wars. Let us demonstrate to the world there is nothing finer than a Canadian citizen in the national, commonwealth or international field of peace.

Mr. L. P. PICARD (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to introduce any political note into the remarks that I shall make this afternoon, but a few words of the leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) compel me to do so. He referred a moment ago to the spineless policy of the government and stated that there should be a government who would take a full share of the responsibilities in the planning of the world of to-morrow.

Let me say that in the past the Liberal party has needed no lesson of that kind, because it has been the policy of that party in the early days, during the fights for the constitutional liberties of our people, to have its leaders to the fore, from Papineau and Mackenzie to Baldwin and Lafontaine. Later on under Laurier the Liberal party has been leading the fight for the recognition of Canada as a world power, and even more under the present Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) under whom Canada has made great strides in the field of international relations.

The future of our international relations, I may say, is better in the hands of the Prime Minister than it would be in the hands of the board of strategy of my hon. friend's party, and by keeping the present government in power we shall avoid the necessity of the house leader of my hon. friend's party asking for a delay of the debate in order to consult his absentee leader and permit that leader to consult his experts.

The making of a nation, as that of man himself, is a matter of time and evolution; it is a matter of toil and of struggle. No nation of the old world has reached its present status by spontaneous growth, because they have all gone through the ordeal of wars and social perturbations. They are the results of the merger of small states or the splitting up

[Mr. Graydon.]

of vast empires. They have been enlarged by expansionist policies or have become smaller in consequence of weaknesses. Some are the outcome of wars while others are the product of compromise and of a concerted effort to prevent wars.

The nations of the new world had a somewhat simpler development; all of them are the outcome of the adventurous expeditions of the wealth-seeking nations of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; of the seafaring powers, of the Spanish, the Portuguese, the Dutch and of the French and the British. Nearly all of them have undergone some process of evolution from the condition of trading posts to that of colonies, and from the colonial status to that of sovereign states.

Of these, Canada has probably had the slowest evolution to its present state of nationhood, but its development has been the result of persistent efforts. As it has reached sovereignty and has become a contributing factor in the shaping of the fate of the world by the tremendous contribution it has made to the liberating forces of democracy, it is about to be asked to divest itself of part of its sovereign rights, as other nations will be asked to do, in order to attempt to establish an organization devoted to the protection of world security, which the resolution now before the house asks us to approve.

It is therefore not irrelevant for me to dwell for a few minutes, in these remarks, on the historical development of our national status as well as on our inter-imperial and international relations. When analysing Canada's status in the world of to-day and contemplating the prospect of Canada's role in the world of to-morrow, we cannot overlook the strange pattern of the historical make-up of our country, nor can one prevent one's memory from recalling the different steps that have led us from the colonial era of the French, and early British domination, through the stages of the fight for the acquisition of legislative power on to confederation and the dawn of self-government and autonomy within the framework of empire, and, finally, to full nationhood within the larger family of the league of nations.

It is consoling to see that at all stages of this evolution men of both races, whose sons shared this country, men of all political parties—and that statement is evidence of my intention not to introduce the political note into my remarks this afternoon—who have taken part in the administration of the state, have shown a common ambition to lead the nation step by step to a higher plane in the field of democratic government. In the early days of British