

The crystal dome visualized in the Canadian sunshine might have a dove of peace at its crest, but do not let us forget that there are teeth in these proposals. Probably at the portal we would have a replica of the American eagle, the British lion and the Russian bear so that nobody might enter unless with peaceful intent.

I have travelled almost the road, but let me give you in a word the other geographical position that Canada is in for this proposal. Nature has placed us, so to speak, in a pivotal geographical location. Canada has been referred to as the crossroads of the world. I learned to-day from authorities who know that it is only twenty hours from Ottawa to Moscow if you take a direct route over the north pole. It is only from fourteen or fifteen hours from Ottawa to London, and Ottawa is only a reasonable time from anywhere in the United States. I believe the twenty-one South and Central American countries would welcome Canada as a place to come to. It would be more convenient for them than possibly any other location that would have any chance of success of being selected.

If nature has made us the logical choice, then let us do our part to make welcome this great new organization with a dignity that will be commensurate with our own national development and pride. I should like to leave with the house this concept of the duty of our delegation at San Francisco which I believe might well be adopted to-day. I am going to the words of that great president, Abraham Lincoln, uttered seventy-eight years ago when at the close of a war which had torn his nation he said:

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. T. L. CHURCH (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister has expressed in this very important resolution which he has moved the clear intention of the government of Canada with respect to the invitation to send representatives to the San Francisco conference.

The resolution first asks the house to endorse the acceptance by the government of Canada of the invitation; that the house recognize

that the establishment of an effective international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security is of vital importance both to Canada and the future well-being of mankind; that the house approve the purposes and principles set forth in the proposals of the four governments and agree that the representatives of Canada at the conference should use their best endeavours to further the preparation of an acceptable charter for this new international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security; and finally the house is asked to approve that the charter establishing the organization should, before ratification be submitted to parliament for approval.

I believe that in this connection what is wanted at the present time in the House of Commons by the people of Canada is plain speaking and clear thinking—something which we have not had for many years past with regard to the foreign affairs of this country. After all is said and done, the United States, our great ally, to whom we owe a great deal, have not had a foreign policy for fifty years beyond that of Jefferson and Madison and Monroe, which was to have no entangling foreign alliances unless their country was invaded.

The San Francisco conference comes, it seems to me, at a very peculiar time. We have had the Yalta conference in the Crimea, the Teheran conference and other conferences before that, and what was the result of one of these conferences? In my opinion, to divert so much shipping and armies to the far eastern theatre, more than could be afforded until Germany was beaten forever, greatly prolonged the war. Last year it was predicted that the war with Germany would be over by Christmas, and everybody thought at that time that the war was about to come to an end. But we are far from victory even now, and I believe it would have been better if the San Francisco conference had been postponed until after the war with Germany had been won.

Last December Mr. Churchill, who saved Greece and restored order there, was much criticized in hundreds, yes thousands—the latter figure is correct—of newspapers in the United States and by some of the members of this house for his policy with regard to Greece. We know that the British government later had to send an ambassador to Washington to look after the food and shipping situation so that relief might be sent to the liberated countries of Europe which had suffered so much and were on the verge of starvation. Ships had been withdrawn from European waters and transferred to the Pacific