

*United Nations Agreement*

will bring in universal peace, universal security and universal justice, and then the words of the ancient prophet will be indeed fulfilled.

They shall beat their swords into plough shares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid.

Mr. SOLON E. LOW (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have listened with great interest to the three contributions that have already been made to this debate; and I was just thinking as the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggan (Mr. Coldwell) was delivering that sincere address of his that it was a good thing we do not all think alike; if we did we would not be thinking. Therefore it becomes my duty to present something of the other side of the picture that has been neglected in the debate thus far.

I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the second great world war is presumed to be over, but the problems of peace loom at the present time against a progressively darkening sky. I find that great confusion exists amongst the people so that very few things stand out clear and unmistakable. However, of one thing we can all be fairly certain, namely, that the problems we faced following world war I were as child's play compared with the chaos and the confusion on a world-wide scale which we now face. We can be fairly certain, too, that the air of confidence or of casual tolerance towards the future which seems to be exhibited by Canadian statesmen is not in any way an honest reflection of a very ugly world situation.

At this very moment fear grips the hearts and minds of all men who honestly face up to the magnitude and complexity of the consequences which already threaten to overwhelm us all. In Europe to-day one finds conditions tragic beyond description. Out of the shambles of a land desolated by ruthless and useless war the threat of totalitarian tyranny everywhere raises its ugly head. Fascism and nazism, while they have been beaten by the might of the free united nations, still lurk resurgent underground in many countries, and communism is making a terrific bid for power in the remaining countries of Europe. Hunger, disease, starvation and frustration are driving men beyond the bounds of sanity and reason.

But tragic as these horrible and ugly conditions are, Mr. Speaker, my greatest fear for the future is that the light of reason will be extinguished in the minds of men so that they lose the urge to struggle to preserve the

[Mr. Coldwell.]

basic principle of the dignity and sanctity of human character. We do not know exactly what the goal is toward which the soul of man is striving, but we do know that he makes the most rapid progress toward that goal under conditions which allow the fullest possible freedom for growth, expansion and development of the individual human personality. It has been amply demonstrated over the centuries that men love freedom more than they love life. Millions have given their lives to establish freedom of speech, freedom to worship God in their own way without molestation; freedom from fear and freedom to live their lives as individuals and not as parts of regimented groups. The men of the world are now locked in a struggle to win freedom from want, but there are signs that tremendous forces are at work in society to extinguish the light of reason amongst men and to effect the imposition upon humanity of totalitarian tyranny.

If the nations of the world, and in particular this nation, revert to pagan faith so that in the hearts of men the will to make truth triumphant in free conflict with error and unrighteousness, then I say that the hope for moral leadership amongst Canadians and amongst the nations and peoples of the world will perish for generations to come. If the individual, with all the dignity and sanctity of the human personality, along with the creative genius of the human mind, is to be compelled to exist only as a means of serving a mythical thing—the state—then the world of the future will degenerate into nothing better than an intellectual, moral and spiritual concentration camp. That, Mr. Speaker, I fear, is the trend of international affairs to-day; and against that trend all red-blooded Canadians should strive in protest. It is against that background we must consider the charter that is before us to-day.

I have carefully examined the United Nations charter, and in all its 111 articles there is not one clear, specific provision for the preservation of the Christian principle of the sanctity of human personality. I know that much has been said about what we are going to do, and about the four freedoms which we are going to establish throughout the whole world, but in this charter I find no human bill of rights; I find no protection for the individual against tyranny. Only one small reference to the dignity and worth of the human person is to be found in the whole charter; that is in the second article of the preamble. That is one reason, I think, why it would be impossible to exaggerate the importance of the resolution now before the house. That is one reason why I have been