

this new country, I would ask the Minister of Justice, who thinks we should do nothing except ratify this Treaty with Poland, what steps he thinks this Parliament and the British Empire should take to find out just how matters stand.

The Minister of Justice is trying to blow hot and cold simultaneously. He says it remains for the United States and the United Kingdom to find out whether there is anything wrong in Poland. If any one on this side suggested yesterday that we should stand aloof in connection with the obligations that fell to any nation we would have been told that we were belittling our country. Now we are faced with that proposition to-day. We say we are a nation and are signing this Treaty as a separate nation. We are told that there is something wrong with this nation of Poland that we have created, but that it is not for us to investigate the matter, which rests with the United States and Great Britain. That does not seem to be consistent with the theory which hon. gentlemen have advanced, that we are to all intents and purposes a nation. We were one of the powers that created Poland and gave it a status, and is it not for us to see to it, as far as we can, that it lives up to its obligation, entered into when it was resuscitated, to protect its citizens? If we cannot do our duty in that respect by protesting when we are dealing with a question of this kind, I should like the Minister of Justice or any of the plenipotentiaries to inform us when the opportunity will arise to call this country to account and insist upon its fulfilling its obligations under the Treaty we passed yesterday and the supplement we are passing to-day.

Mr. MORPHY: It is well that this discussion has arisen, and I may say that it supports my view, which I have not heretofore expressed, and gives me comfort to know that although the argument has been laboured in this House by certain gentlemen that Canada was not interested in questions that did not directly affect its welfare, there is nevertheless a prevalent feeling here that we have an interest in matters that are not altogether relevant to our own advancement.

Mr. JACOBS: Explain.

Mr. MORPHY: I do not think my words require any particular explanation.

Mr. JACOBS: Absolutely.

Mr. MORPHY: My words need no explanation because this Chamber has rung

with cheers from men who adopted the principle against which I mildly inveigh. I think we should read this Treaty with some care. Article 2 says:

Poland undertakes to assure full and complete protection of life and liberty to all inhabitants of Poland without distinction of birth, nationality, language, race or religion.

All inhabitants of Poland shall be entitled to the free exercise, whether public or private, of any creed, religion or belief, whose practices are not inconsistent with public order or morals.

"Poland undertakes to assure full and complete protection of life and liberty."

Mr. JACOBS: There were no murders until she undertook to do that.

Mr. MORPHY: The hon. member has very properly brought up a subject that will appeal to all the people of Canada, and one that is well worthy of the consideration of this Parliament. My view is that we are interested in all the conditions that prevail throughout the world that lead to the betterment of those classes that are persecuted, and to the betterment of the world at large. That is the broad plane upon which I think a subject of this kind should be placed. It is a far higher question, I think, than the question whether we have a right of access to some canal or some territory, or freedom to do this or that. I should like this subject to be elevated to the highest possible moral plane. What was the war fought for if it was not to give liberty to the peoples that were oppressed? When that question is raised in connection with Poland the assertion is made that ruthless conduct prevails there to-day, and that Poland apparently is not observing what we understand to be her obligations. That is the charge which is couched in very strong language. But I would ask the hon. member for George Etienne Cartier (Mr. Jacobs) to bear in mind that in these countries of war-stricken Europe standardized government does not obtain to-day. I have no doubt that M. Paderewski, the Prime Minister of Poland, has a bleeding heart by reason of these very outrages of which we complain. The point I wish to make about the Treaty is that Poland undertakes to remedy these grievances, and as we are asked to approve of that clause, the sooner it is put through and made, as the rest of the Treaty, a solemn and binding obligation upon Poland, the sooner that country's good faith will be tested. The League of Nations will put her to the test. But we are apparently asked to adopt the policy of the leader of the Opposition, that because some ruthless