

There are some things about the situation that I do not like. Again I speak with humility because I am not such an expert that I can express a firm opinion; but I think I ought to say I do not like the way the Yalta conference dealt with the Poles.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: They were overrun first of all by the Russians and then by the Germans. Poland was the first nation that stood by Great Britain at the beginning of the war with Germany. Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin may have made the very best agreement possible; no doubt they did—I have no doubt that even if I had been there I should have fallen in line and agreed with them—but in my heart of hearts there is a feeling that the Poles have not got a deal that we as freedom loving people can justify to ourselves. It is my hope that at the peace table they will get such a deal.

Coming back to the California conference, I understand the Government is going to appoint men and women from the House of Commons, and probably two members of this House. They should go to the conference dedicated to the task of carrying out their responsibilities in such a way that future generations will not have to suffer as this generation has suffered. Only those of us who have our own boys overseas know what a terrible trial we go through. We think of them all day, from the time we get up in the morning until we go to bed at night. Man or woman it is exactly the same, and if any pretend they do not, and won't admit it, they are only deceiving themselves.

Now, honourable senators, we have a chance at San Francisco. It may be a small chance; we are but a small nation. The great nations have tremendous power, maybe too much power, and the outcome may be dependent on power politics; but in my judgment anything that can get the United States, Russia and Great Britain—and probably France and China—around the table and get them to agree on a formula, will at least result in a better world than we had before the First Great War. The men and women who go from Canada to that conference will be sitting down with some of the great people of the world—perhaps not Stalin or Churchill or Roosevelt, but the regular people—and with them can work out this peace organization. Anyone can get up and criticize proposals with reference to this conference. You may find fault with this agreement by the hour. You may say it is not democratic. You may say that Canada will be called upon to provide so many men and so much money for the settlement of disputes. But that is not so

at all; there is to be a police force to deal with such cases. In my judgment each member of this Chamber believes it is a step toward world peace and a means of preventing wars in the future. I will not go into that any further, except to say that I believe the people of Canada as a whole are seized with the importance of this conference. It is not a peace conference. Those who go there will have difficulty in reaching an agreement. We may be dissatisfied. It may be that the Prime Minister, if he goes there, will not get what he wants, or that those who go from the other side will not yet what they want; but all will go with determination and hope that peace shall reign in the world forever after. I could read you an extract from a newspaper which states that in the last thousand years wars have been going on half the time. That is probably correct. But there is still the chance that this time we may be right.

Honourable members, I thank you for your attention. I hope I have said nothing that is in derogation of our great war effort. My thoughts have been animated solely by what is good for Canada. We in this House have no political interests to serve. We may have an interest such as you might find where there is a contest for mayor, and somebody is elected and somebody else is not. But by and large, to us it matters little who may sit in the House of Commons. We should think of Canada and the sacrifices she has made, firmly believing that in the future we may be one of the great nations who stand for peace.

Hon. J. H. KING: I join with my honourable friend opposite in congratulating the mover and seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I think it is generally agreed that they acquitted themselves most creditably. While reading their speeches it occurred to me that those two gentlemen might easily have exchanged notes, because their speeches are fairly well along the same line. If one read what they had to say in dealing with the war one would find that they were in very close agreement. They both spoke of the value of the principles of fair play and justice and the necessity that these should prevail throughout the world at this time. I am sure that when this Parliament returns to the consideration of peace-time matters and legislation of first importance to the people of Canada, those two honourable gentlemen will be very valuable members, not only in debate in this Chamber but in the work of committees of this House.

My honourable friend who has just taken his seat (Hon. Mr. Haig) has refrained from controversial discussion. May I say that in this I think he was wise. It is of course well