

That indicates the point of view taken by one who was very close to the conference during its deliberations. But there is another matter which might be mentioned at this time, and which is of vital concern and importance in respect of the results achieved by the conference. While it was in progress the physical devastation possible through the use of atomic energy had not been made known to the world, nor had we knowledge of the psychological changes which the unloosening of that energy would bring about. The possibilities of that great power had not reached in and gripped the hearts and minds and souls of humanity, as it has since that time.

While some may argue that the advent of atomic energy has outmoded and outdated the San Francisco charter, I do not share their view. I believe the atomic bomb has made the successful operation of the San Francisco charter even more vitally important and essential than it ever was before. It may well be, however, that in any operations which will take place under the charter in connection with taking action for the enforcement of world security, scientific laboratories may enter into the picture in a fashion which was not contemplated at San Francisco. I do believe that the power plans for enforcement envisaged by the charter may have to be revised drastically, but I am equally convinced that the charter itself is even more essential and more vital to-day than it was in those pre-atomic days. In the light of the atomic bomb, San Francisco must and will of course adapt itself.

I do not hesitate to bring to the house some of the more human elements and factors of the conference because it is difficult to convey the real meaning of San Francisco in words. One found at the committee meetings of the conference the same type of people, the same kind of approaches, the same factors and features, in a greater and larger way of course, as would be found at a municipal council meeting, in a provincial legislature or in the dominion House of Commons. After all, it was a great meeting of people and, when you have a great meeting of people, you have well known characteristics coming up and asserting themselves throughout the gathering.

One part of the conference I liked was the opportunity to meet the men and women who represented the various nations. It was a great and compelling experience to rub shoulders with people from other nations and to talk with them, to know their problems and to try to understand them. But there were difficulties. There was the difficulty, of course, of language which seems to some people

to prove an almost insurmountable obstacle. But as one got used to the procedure at San Francisco, as one received the various translations that followed the speeches, one became accustomed to the procedure. In spite of all the barriers of race, creed, religion and language, when one looks at this charter and sees it printed in the Chinese, in the Russian, in the Spanish, in the French and in the English languages he realizes how difficult it is for the ordinary layman to translate one into the other, let alone reach international understanding. I think one must come to the conclusion that a masterly job was done in bringing the nations of the world as closely together as this charter has been successful so far in doing.

I should like to make a further reference to the human element that entered into the conference itself. The dry bones of the words of this charter do not begin to convey what happened at San Francisco and the evolution and changes and amendments, yes and the melting pot through which these various national aspirations, national aims and national claims had to go in order to be refined into the document which is now presented to this house for approval.

A few moments ago the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs mentioned the price which it was necessary to pay in order that there should be a charter. This country along with other countries had to make certain alterations in their positions in order that the price which had to be paid for this document would be paid for by this country as it was paid for by others. I am one who believes that the price was not too great to pay if this charter only works in the days that lie ahead.

A few moments ago I spoke about the Department of External Affairs, and at this time I want to inject another note into the discussion. After having been to San Francisco, I am more convinced than ever—I hope no one will take this as a personal reflection—that there should be a separate Minister of External Affairs for the Dominion of Canada. After having watched and observed with rather close scrutiny the other international movements of like character as well which have been taking place, I feel that the appointment or creation of a separate ministry is a "must" for this dominion.

I want to say to my hon. friends opposite something which I have said to them before in this House of Commons. I think the question of international affairs is one of the most important that this nation and this parliament must deal with. The department is growing in size and in importance. If ever a depart-