

*External Affairs*

spark, another war might start. It was only the spark of the shooting of one man of royalty that, officially at least, started the first world war. It was the lunacy of one man in Germany, with his dreams of power, that caused the actions that set off the spark which started the second world war. Who knows what may start the third? If it does start, the evidence is conclusive that it means the end of mankind.

We have the remarks made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs before the Ottawa Catholic youth organization, as reported in the press only a few days ago:

If the nations of the world engage in a third world war, civilization would be destroyed, . . .

That is our own Secretary of State for External Affairs. In this morning's *Globe and Mail* we find a statement attributed to one who should know. I refer to Defence Secretary Charles E. Wilson of the United States. Here is what he has to say, as reported in the paper:

Defence Secretary Charles E. Wilson said today the unbelievable power unleashed in test H-bomb explosions this month dwarfed the atomic bomb just as the A-bomb dwarfed TNT bombs of the second world war.

Mr. Holifield, a member of the United States congress and a member of the congressional atomic energy committee, who saw the March 1 explosion, has this to say, as reported in the same paper:

Holifield, who saw the effects of the titanic March 1 hydrogen explosion, told the house, however, that "civil defence against atomic-hydrogen attack is a delusion . . . mass extermination of millions in any or all nations can occur during a week end."

And further:

Holifield said complete military defence against supersonic planes or missiles with atomic-hydrogen warheads is impossible and non-existent.

Mr. Wilson said further:

Wilson was asked at a news conference whether the U.S. intends to use the H-bomb if it is involved in another war. He replied: "Don't you think it would be foolish to spend billions unless you are prepared to use them under some circumstances?"

I think you will understand, Mr. Speaker, the reason why I feel so intensely about this matter. Here we have statements by leaders of the North American continent, including our own Secretary of State for External Affairs, the defence secretary of the United States and a member of the congress of the United States who saw that explosion on March 1. They all agreed that the result of the destructive power of the hydrogen bomb means the end of mankind, and they also stated that there is no military or civil defence whatsoever against the power of the hydrogen bomb.

That is why I suggest that this matter should be discussed and a lead given to us and, I hope, to the world, by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson). This was brought very forcibly to my attention in an excellent editorial which appeared in the Vancouver *Daily Sun* on March 27. With your permission, sir, I would like to quote part of that editorial. It states:

Churchill contemplating the effects of H-bombing nearly weeps in public. Eisenhower, stupefied by news of the scientists' surprise, implies he is stunned by bombing possibilities. All common men everywhere, probably even in Russia, are aghast and voice their dread. Yet no move is made to deal with the H-bomb threat. We believe common men hold their safety and desire to live at peace in their own hands. We believe they can make themselves heard through their governments and elected representatives. Convinced that now is the time for positive action, we suggest the cabinet at Ottawa, through Prime Minister St. Laurent, call for a world conference using the machinery of the United Nations headquarters at New York.

We suggest that he lose no time in asking for this conference. In many countries Canada has ambassadors. Let them pass on the call.

The conference should be summoned in a spirit of absolute objectivity. There must be no ideological fences erected. It must be bombs and nothing but the bombs.

The time for form and ceremony is past and the hour demands immediate action by some one man who does not fear to risk position, or the condescending smiles of statesmen higher in the councils of the world.

I believe that is an excellent editorial, Mr. Speaker. I think it is a call to members of this house to do a little soul searching and see if we cannot adopt a responsible attitude at this session, in this house, at this time and get away from an academic discussion of communism, anti-communism, the recognition of China, or what happened at the Berlin conference, and lay down a program in clear terms calling now for the rule of sanity among the leaders of the nations of this world. The only place I know where such can be directed is through the medium of the United Nations.

A few years ago we might have called that epoch the age of TNT. That gave way to the age of the atom, but already the atom has given way to the hydrogen bomb. I have been trying to find out something about the atomic and hydrogen bomb and I came across what I believe is a magnificent book which can be understood by laymen. It is entitled, "Scientific American Reader". Upon reading that book I learned that there are two differences between the atomic bomb and the hydrogen bomb. The atomic bomb and indeed the entire atomic energy enterprise rests ultimately on the basic reaction following the splitting of uranium 235. On the other hand, the hydrogen bomb is not based on fission, it is based on fusion. There is