

*Supply—External Affairs*

the intention of the countries to whose initiative it owes its origin, was set up for the purpose of restricting the Spanish conflict and thereby safeguarding peace in the rest of the world;

I wish the committee to pay particular attention to No. 4.

(4) Regrets that not merely has the London non-intervention committee failed, despite the efforts of the majority of its members—

Note, "despite the efforts of the majority of its members."

—of which the assembly expresses its appreciation, to secure the withdrawal of non-Spanish combatants taking part in the struggle in Spain, but that it must to-day be recognized that there are veritable foreign army corps on Spanish soil, which represents foreign intervention in Spanish affairs;

(5) Observes that the council in its resolution of May 29th last, justly described this withdrawal as "the most effective remedy for a situation, the great gravity of which, from the standpoint of the general peace, it feels bound to emphasize, and the most certain means of ensuring the full application of the policy of non-intervention";

(6) Sincerely trusts that the diplomatic action recently initiated by certain powers will be successful in securing the immediate and complete withdrawal of the non-Spanish combatants taking part in the struggle in Spain;

(7) Appeals to the governments, which must be all animated by the desire to see peace maintained in Europe, to undertake a new and earnest effort in this direction;

And I wish the committee to note the next part of this section.

And notes that, if such a result cannot be obtained in the near future, the members of the league which are parties to the non-intervention agreement will consider ending the policy of non-intervention;

(8) Requests the council, in view of the provisions of article 11 of the covenant of the league, to follow attentively the development of the situation in Spain and to seize any opportunity that may arise for seeking a basis for a pacific solution of the conflict.

Thirty-two delegations voted in favour of this report. The report however failed to obtain the necessary unanimity and was not adopted. But it failed of adoption because it was opposed by Albania and Portugal, two countries that were acting merely as "stooges" for Italy. Let it be noted that Canada was among the thirty-two nations voting—for what? Voting for this:

That it must to-day be recognized that there are veritable foreign army corps on Spanish soil, which represents foreign intervention in Spanish affairs.

That is what our delegation voted for in September a month and a half after this government imposed an embargo on Spain the purpose of which was to hinder Spain from

[Mr. MacInnis.]

helping herself either to put down rebellion within her borders or to free herself from foreign aggression.

There is no question in anyone's mind to-day that the war in Spain has ceased to be a civil war and is now a war of invasion by Italy and Germany. Everything that has happened in the last few months has emphasized that, time and time again. The assembly of the League of Nations accepted the situation, as I have just read, although the recommendation failed technically to pass the assembly. In view of these circumstances I think this parliament would be justified in instructing the government to rescind the order in council which imposed an embargo on arms and munitions to Spain.

During this session, on March 17, in reply to a question by myself, reported at page 1407 of Hansard, the Prime Minister said as part of his reply:

May I add to what I have said in the way of a formal reply to my hon. friend that at this time we are witnessing momentous events on the continent of Europe. We are witnessing also momentous events on the continent of Asia. Canada is a part of the continent of North America. Unless it is the desire to have it appear that our country is anxious to participate in these events, to become a party to or a part of what is happening on the continents of Europe and Asia, it is desirable, I believe, that all persons in positions of authority and responsibility in this country and who have anything to do with the shaping and moulding of public opinion, whether in parliament or in the press, should refrain from taking any steps or making any representations which would appear to have a contrary aim and purpose.

Spain is in the continent of Europe, and as the League of Nations had not taken action in regard to Spain, if we were brought into this situation we were brought into it by the action of the Prime Minister and his government. If the government of this country has the right to bring Canada into the affairs of foreign countries without even asking parliament, without the consent of parliament, surely we have the right to question the action of the government in that regard. If we are now involved—and we are involved by non-intervention—in the Spanish affair, we have been involved by the present government. Either that or, if we can remain neutral only by placing embargoes, we should immediately place an embargo upon the shipment of supplies to Japan. The Prime Minister cannot have it both ways. So, I think that, in order to put ourselves right with the legally elected government of Spain, we should immediately rescind the order in council of July 30, 1937.

We have heard a great deal in this house and in speeches in the country about the necessity of maintaining democracy. I have