

to be followed by us. I have on a previous occasion given impressive figures on British trade as orientated by British financial interests and the opportunity of maintaining its spheres of influence in foreign countries. I need not repeat them to-day. But it may be advisable to notice that when our grain elevators were overflowing with wheat and we could not market it, Great Britain was buying large quantities from Argentina. When our pulp and paper industry was operating at only twenty-five per cent of its capacity, Great Britain was buying heavily from Norway, Sweden and Russia. These transactions were motivated only by questions of financial return and political expediency and not by sentiments of imperial relations and friendship. Such sentiments should not be invoked only to help Great Britain. Canada's policies should be dictated by Canadian interests, and any curtailment of its rights or any sacrifices she may be called upon to make economically should be on a basis of world relationship on a par with any other nation of the world.

Canada should be ready to participate on an equal footing with the other states in any system of tariff adjustment or, if needed, in the abolition of trade barriers, but I repeat that subject to the same restrictions or readjustments as would be consented to by other nations, Canada should follow its own course in the orientation of its economic life.

Of equal importance to the economic security of a nation is the social security of its inhabitants. This government has already put on the statute books a number of measures that will give a larger degree of welfare and security to the masses than was heretofore contemplated. Its plans for the readjustment of Canadian industry and agriculture to after war conditions and the passing from a war economy to a peace economy are in the process of elaboration.

If we are ready to devote our efforts to the maintenance of peace and the attainment of economic security we must also have in turn the energy to tackle social security and to prevent as much as possible the economic aftermath of the war. A country that has been able to muster the industrial and agricultural strength this country has developed has no reason to return to an economy of poverty when during the war it has found the resources to carry on.

In conclusion I wish to say that this war has been a struggle between two ideologies, between two systems of government for the world. Had nazi Germany and Japan been able to extend their own forms of government to most peoples of the earth, a so-called

[Mr. Picard.]

master race would have kept in slavery those they claimed to be subject races. Any life within that new order would have been the negation of human dignity and human rights. Any life outside the sphere of German domination would have been so influenced economically and otherwise as to bring about a considerable reduction of the standards of living for nations that hitherto had known a better fate.

Now that victory for the allied nations appears certain and within sight, it is of prime importance that the last touch be put to the charters that will be the guiding beacons in the world of to-morrow. For the maintenance of peace the Dumbarton Oaks proposals constitute a promising basis for discussion. It is in my mind a plan vastly superior to the league, because it has more effective power than the league. If, as I stated previously, it meets with the effective approval and receives the support of all nations it may prove to be a barrier against the ambitions and drunken nightmares of barbarians.

Although imperfect and although it demands from all nations sacrifices and the submission to a higher super-state in the matter of international relations, it should be considered a worthy attempt at world reorganization.

Before taking my seat I should like to quote an excerpt from a statement by Senator Norris, that famous United States liberal, in which he defined a liberal. 'I would like' this to be applied in connection with the somewhat startling departure from usual international practice that we find in the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. Senator Norris said:

I should say a Liberal is a man with an open mind who sees the changes that are taking place in the world about him and realizes that our system of government must keep pace with those changes. He realizes the value of precedents, but he also realizes that we are inclined too often to follow those precedents which were established under conditions entirely different from those existing at the time the precedents are employed.

Let us all be liberals, then, in so far as the security proposals are concerned. Let us all face the necessity of providing radical measures in the hope of preventing another world catastrophe. No sacrifice of sovereign rights is too high, no expense is too extravagant, if it should have as a reward the maintenance of peace and security in the world.

Mr. VICTOR QUELCH (Acadia): Mr. Speaker, I think we have every reason to rejoice at the fine spirit of cooperation that exists to-day between the great nations of the world, Great Britain, the Soviet Union