

needed I refer to the fact that Great Britain is turning out gas masks at a rate which, it is said, will make it possible to equip every citizen with a mask within the next two years. Highly mechanized warfare, more horrible and more devastating than ever before, with all its terrors, particularly to the civil population, will be the order of the day. And there will be no such thing as the rules of war.

As regards Canada's participation in the next European conflict, I stand exactly where I did in this House three years ago. I have not changed. I am definitely opposed to our participating. Developments in the interval have not been such as to give me any reason to change my views. No matter how the next war may end, it will mean the death of untold thousands and the financial bankruptcy of the countries involved, resulting in unlimited inflation and the wiping out of the earnings and savings of their citizens. Located as we are, 3,500 miles from the scene of action—some of us 6,500 miles—we could not under any circumstances be early participants.

We should well and carefully consider all the phases of war before jumping into the European cauldron. Our leaders of both parties are now committed to submitting to Parliament the decision as to war before committing the country. I have gone further and advocated a referendum. However, this is probably a distinction without much difference, for, judging by the debate which occurred in another place last month, it is evident that if war were declared to-day the Government would have to go to the country and thus the people would make the decision.

I realize, honourable senators, that this review of the situation is not a pleasant one. It may be charged that it is a cold and calculating review. But I think we are rapidly passing the point where any other consideration can be justified. After another war there would be little left of Europe—and little of Canada, too, if we were in it.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Haig, for Hon. Mr. Duff, the debate was adjourned.

DIVORCE BILLS

THIRD READINGS

On motion of Hon. Mr. McMeans, Chairman on the Committee on Divorce, the following Bills were severally read the third time, and passed:

Bill D2, an Act for the relief of Gretna Golden Laird Rankin.

Bill E2, an Act for the relief of Frank Horace Wood.

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Bill F2, an Act for the relief of Edith Mary Bowers-Hill O'Hagan.

Bill G2, an Act for the relief of Isobel Jean Herbert Fleming Johnson.

Bill H2, an Act for the relief of Emilie Letsch Rutishauser.

Bill I2, an Act for the relief of Miriam Silverman.

Bill J2, an Act for the relief of Alice Mary Hickman Ings.

TRANSPORT BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Right Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM presented the report of the Standing Committee on Railways, Telegraphs and Harbours on Bill B, an Act to establish a Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada, with authority in respect of transport by railways, ships, aircraft and motor vehicles.

He said: Honourable members, as chairman of the committee I present the report. The committee has made a number of amendments to the Bill. There was not much opposition to any of them, and I think they all tend to make the Bill more acceptable. Now I move their adoption. I understand that the Government has an amendment to meet objections of our Maritime friends, and it can be dealt with on the motion for third reading.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: What about the West?

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Our Maritime friends moved an amendment in the committee, and it was defeated by a very narrow majority. In these circumstances I am moving adoption of these amendments on the distinct understanding that on the third reading the Government will propose the amendment referred to.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable members, I am not rising to differ from the comment made by the mover of the motion to the effect that the amendments are, he thinks, generally acceptable as improvements of the Bill. I think I can agree with his statement, and, further, with his prophecy that the Government amendment to be moved will still further improve the Bill. Yet I do not feel inclined to discuss the committee's report at the present time, because I know that the suggested amendment, to be made on the third reading—on the faith of which, doubtless, some honourable members at least will vote in favour of the committee's report—will render the Bill such that other honourable members will feel they