

fortunate we are compared with so many nations which live under the constant dread of war.

Though so averse to war, Canada has played a big part in both world wars. For this reason, and because of her position of influence in the councils of the commonwealth—incidentally we may perhaps claim to be not entirely without influence in the councils of the United States as well because of our close proximity to that republic—Canada stands head and shoulders above all nations other than the great powers in her capacity to make a contribution to the maintenance of peace, and this must be considered when our position is placed before the conference by our delegates.

Canada's future as a free nation can best be assured as a member of the British commonwealth of nations. British and American peoples must work together in close harmony. An international organization must be created to maintain world peace and Canada must give full support to such an organization. Those three sentences are taken from the programme and platform of the Progressive Conservative party.

The principal judicial organ of the organization, the proposed international court of justice, is still in embryonic form. Perhaps I should say it is even less than that, because only proposals have been made with respect to it. The conference at San Francisco will have some guide from the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, but they are largely in alternate form. The scope and field of the court's jurisdiction will be something requiring careful study and consideration by the nations in view of the plenary powers being given to the security council with respect to all matters relating to external affairs.

One point with respect to the international court of justice which may well be mentioned will be an early codification of existing international law which can profitably form a basis at least for the initiation of the new court, providing valuable assistance by way of precedents for its operations.

In the midst of this discussion on the proposals for world security I desire to make an observation with respect to our commonwealth and empire relations as well. Nothing done by this nation at the coming conference or elsewhere must endanger our close ties with the British commonwealth and empire. These ties must be strengthened rather than relaxed in the days that lie ahead. It will be recalled that in this very chamber two years ago the

[Mr. Graydon.]

United Kingdom Foreign Secretary, Right Hon. Anthony Eden, standing at the head of the clerk's table, used these words:

The relationship between the various units of the commonwealth may well form a pattern for a world peace to be followed by the nations of the world.

This is the glory and the common sense of our commonwealth, that there is nothing exclusive about it. Having been for long an international going concern, and having taught the world in past periods how even a partly international going concern could keep the world at peace, it can now fit easily into the larger security plan.

The temple of peace will have to be constructed slowly and laboriously, stone by stone. One of the chief builders will be the British commonwealth, and it can only discharge this task if there is among its partners the fullest desire and intention that this international going concern—the British commonwealth and empire, the only international going concern in existence at the moment—shall be kept strong and vital so that it may discharge its task in peace no less effectively than in war. We of Canada at the conference and elsewhere must never let the commonwealth down.

Of major import to Canada is our relationship with the great and friendly republic to the south of us. It is of great importance that this deep and abiding international companionship and brotherhood be continued, promoted and consolidated. This nation must always see to it that the ties and bonds of friendship between Canada and our American cousins are preserved and maintained. Between the common people of both nations is a depth of understanding which is an anchor of assurance for peaceful relations for generations to come. So that in every one of our international movements our position with relation to the United States of America must be an important consideration and factor in our policy. One of the keystones in the arch of peace for us is a friendly commonwealth, friendly among ourselves and friendly with the United States of America.

We are fortunate in the knowledge that the United Kingdom and other units of the commonwealth are desirous of seeing Canada's friendly relations with the United States of America maintained, preserved and promoted. Likewise the United States of America is anxious, for obvious reasons, that this nation shall be a powerful and influential unit in the British commonwealth of nations.

In the sentiments thus expressed and in the stand this nation takes in her relations to the commonwealth and the United States there