

nation in the empire. Let us show the world that this man Tim Buck did not speak for Canada when he spoke last week in London—

Mr. BRADETTE: London, Ontario?

Mr. GREEN:—London, England, and as reported in the press, used these words:

Tim Buck, English-born leader of Canada's Labour Progressive party, today told a conference of empire communists that the Canadian government "wants to see the empire maintained—preferably by the blood and sweat of the British people."

Mr. MITCHELL: Why advertise Tim Buck?

Mr. GREEN: Well, you yourself have advertised him a good deal. Tim Buck was never much of a friend to either Great Britain or Canada.

Mr. MITCHELL: How have I advertised him?

Mr. GRAYDON: He is sort of fellow traveller of yours.

Mr. GREEN: Yes. He was working hard for the minister in the last election.

Let us help Great Britain in every way possible. She has suffered grievously to save civilization. Her people are showing the same courage and the same sturdy character that they showed after Dunkirk and right through the war. No people on earth are more deserving of support and encouragement from the other nations of the world. I believe that Canada now, in 1947, holds the key to the future of the British empire and, perhaps, through that empire, holds the key to the peace of the world.

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, with the first part of the speech of the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Green) I was finding myself in entire agreement because, as I will show in just a moment, my notes were along the lines of what he was saying, and I hope I may be able to add something to that very informative part of his address. With respect to the second part of his speech, as I understand its implications, I must say I am in sharp disagreement. I am not prepared to recommend to this house that we go back to the pre-statute of Westminster days.

Mr. GREEN: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I did not say anything of the kind. If the Secretary of State for External Affairs is trying to twist my speech to take that meaning from it he is being unfair and unjust to himself. I can assure him that

I did not have that meaning, and that I am just as strong for Canada as he is, or any other member on that side of the house.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I said the implications of the hon. member's speech led me to believe that he wished us to retrace steps which I was not prepared to recommend retracing.

Mr. GREEN: You were 100 per cent wrong.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I trust that the hon. member will not suspect me of trying to twist his speech. It is on *Hansard*; it can be read and appreciated, and will speak for him.

Mr. GREEN: That suits me.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: And I think those who read it will find in it the implication I found in listening to it. With respect to that position, I am not prepared to recommend to the house that there be a common voice for the empire. That question has been discussed more than once in this house, and we have come to the conclusion, at least on this side of the house, that Canada was going to have a foreign policy of its own and was not going to be merely the instrument to carry out a foreign policy made up for us elsewhere.

The government has welcomed this debate, and I am sure all hon. members have welcomed it. The hon. gentleman said there should be more frequent opportunities for debates on external affairs. I trust there will be more frequent opportunities for such debates; but by general agreement since the house met we have been dealing, up to the present time, with that emergency legislation which requires to be passed before March 31. In the course of the session there will be many opportunities to discuss external affairs, because many times the government will have to come to parliament to ask for its ratification of agreements that have been entered into; and there can also be other occasions when the external affairs of the country may be discussed.

The hon. member says there should be reports of the position taken by Canada at these international conferences. No doubt the hon. member knows of this report on the united nations conference on international organization which was put out as conference series 1945, document No. 2. I can say to the hon. member that one is now being prepared, because I have had something to do with it over the last several weeks, and I trust that it will be made available very shortly, much in the form of this report, on