

work. The competition for immigrants between Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa therefore is likely to be particularly keen and the most desirable class of British settler is unlikely to be attracted to a country where he will lose his nationality.

In the same way there will be a keen commercial competition between this country and the United States for the British, among other foreign markets, and we will forfeit a considerable advantage in severing our Imperial connection.

There are still other considerations both material and sentimental that I might urge did space permit but I must content myself with recording my sincere conviction that Canada's best hopes for the future lie as a full partner in the great federation of British Nations. To this end we must undertake the future defense of our own shores by sea and on land and must insist on complete freedom in dealing with other nations where Imperial interests are not concerned. We must also insist upon an equal voice in all international agreements which affect either ourselves or the Empire as a whole but how all this is to be done may safely be left to the Conference which is to be held at the earliest possible moment after the conclusion of the war.

Finally it seems well to say that an Anglo-Saxon rapprochement will be an important factor in maintaining the world's peace through the days to come: Great Britain by her island position and the United States by reason of distance, stand apart as it were from the other great Powers who lie cheek-by-jowl in Europe, and upon them accordingly will rest the main responsibility for preventing the recurrence of any such catastrophe as that which is now shaking the earth. Hence a sympathetic understanding between