

and by this parliament has to be ratified at Westminster before it becomes finally binding and effective with respect to these provinces. That means another year's delay. My friend the Minister of Railways (Mr. Dunning) stares, but that is the fact. The Solicitor General (Mr. Cannon) and the law officers of the crown will confirm my statement. The legislature of Saskatchewan is no longer in session; the legislature of Alberta is in session; the legislature of Manitoba will be in session this week, and opportunity is afforded this parliament to carry into effect the suggestions made by the Prime Minister in 1922 when he first met this house in that capacity and was going to deal with the problem at once. He has been going to deal with it ever since. As has been suggested to me, there is a clause in the agreement that was submitted to this house in 1926 with respect to the ratification of the legislation by the Imperial parliament. This was inserted because it is necessary from the constitutional standpoint.

So that is the position to-day with respect to our natural resources. I was very much pleased to see the concession by the government that these resources are held by the crown in right of the Dominion in trust for the crown in right of the provinces. When that order in council was passed by the government last August it put its final approval upon that concession by stating that with respect to Manitoba we had to go back to 1870 to determine what its rights should be as to the resources that had been alienated and, I take it, the revenues therefrom. That being the position with respect to this long-standing matter, I earnestly hope that the government will rearrange its program so as to concede to these western provinces the same rights, and place them in the same position, with respect to these vast areas that the crown in right of the Dominion holds in trust for the crown in right of the new provinces that were called into being. That, I think, is not an unreasonable position to take, and we trust that the government will without more delay see that effect is given to it.

As to the royal commission to deal with radio matters, I have only this observation to make. In view of the promises that were made last session, it does seem to me that an unusually long time has been allowed to elapse before appointing that commission. Radio becomes of some importance. Canada has quite as large an area as the great republic to the south, and we have just as much air north of forty-nine as they have south. I am satisfied that the conference

[Mr. Bennett.]

recently held here has arrived at conclusions based upon a realization of the mutual obligations and the mutual opportunities in connection with the transmission of messages through the air; but I do complain of the unnecessary delay that has taken place in appointing the commission.

Now, sir, the paragraph in the speech from the throne referring to the improved conditions under which international and imperial relations are carried on does not call for any discussion in view of what was said last session.

But this brings me to a matter which I do regard as being of very vital importance to this country. The immediately succeeding paragraph deals with the multilateral treaty for the renunciation of war, which was signed on behalf of Canada in August, and states that it will be submitted to us for approval. It is always a very delicate matter to refer to the positions that are taken by other countries than your own; your observations are always open to misconception, and doubtless they are sometimes misrepresented. But since the right hon. Prime Minister affixed his signature to the treaty I venture to say that not within the memory of any man on this continent has language so violent been used by public men in the United States with respect to Great Britain. Great Britain has been charged with desiring war. When you read, not the irresponsible utterances of jingoes, but the carefully-considered and carefully-prepared editorials in the great newspapers and articles in the outstanding magazines of the United States contributed by ex-service men of the army and navy, and when you peruse the debates in the United States senate, you cannot but be struck with the fact that we Canadians are being entirely overlooked in relation to this matter. When our great neighbours talk of war against Great Britain, they should understand that they are talking also of war against Canada. And the use of the word "war" in magazine articles, newspaper editorials and speeches is the negation of the very purpose of the treaty itself—the absolute negation. Listen to the words of M. Briand when this treaty was being signed. He said:

For the first time in the face of the whole world through a solemn covenant involving the honour of great nations, all of which have behind them a heavy past of political conflict, war is renounced unreservedly as an instrument of national policy; that is to say, in its most specific and dreaded form—selfish and wilful war. Considered of yore as of a divine right and having remained in international ethics as