

we might have found by this time that a world conflict was more evidently before us than it is now, if indeed it was not actually raging.

Honourable senators, some of the remarks about the police force were in my view uncalled for. It has been referred to as a conveyor of typewriters and so forth, instead of an armed force. Well, I think that sort of talk gets us nowhere. The result so far is that it has had an arresting effect, and that is worth a tremendous lot. True, there has not been a solution of the great difficulties involved, but at least the trouble up to this stage has been arrested. Who can honestly look lightly upon that achievement? What is ahead of us no one knows. However, I think we can be thankful that that arresting step at least has been taken.

The issues before the world in these matters and the consequences of them baffle the imagination. As has been repeatedly said, if earnest and co-operative efforts toward peace are not made by the great powers, there may be a war of extermination. For there is no longer a possibility of victory for one and defeat for another. The day for that kind of thing is gone. This fact makes co-operative efforts toward international good will absolutely essential. Reference has been made in this chamber to the Munich Pact and so on, but where does that get us? Honourable senators, that belongs to the past. Today we may look upon the attempt of appeasement that was made only a few years ago as a mistake, but we must not forget that the atom bomb was then only in the realm of speculation and the hydrogen bomb was not even dreamt of. So these references to the past are meaningless in the present situation.

Let us recall for a moment what was probably one of the most significant statements ever made, a statement which will be remembered down through the years. It was made for publication by that great scientist Einstein just before he died and might be regarded as his last message to the world. I do not remember his exact words, but the substance was that he regretted the progress that had been made in atomic science, seeing, as he did, what might be ahead.

I bring this matter up because I feel our thinking ought to be influenced and guided by the changed circumstances of life. Honourable senators, as was said here just now we should not advocate peace at any price; nevertheless we must work harder and more realistically for peace with honour, and perhaps sacrifice more for it, than at any time in human history. It is true we must have a proper balance, but we should do nothing

which would in any way thwart an honest down-to-earth effort to try to get the nations together and resolve their difficulties.

We have heard it said, and it is true to a certain degree, that there is a rift between the Western nations. An honourable senator said he regretted the attitude of the United States to the Middle East question. I know that his intention is good and sincere, but I think it is a mistake at this time to express recriminations which might tend to separate us from our neighbours. If we are really separated let us try to get together, not keep apart, since it is only by working together that we can possibly solve the tremendous problems now facing the world.

There is one other phase of this matter to which I would like to refer. I think that public affairs today, in terms of party issues and the conduct of our political life, must be subordinated to the cause of international co-operation. I do not speak from the viewpoint of any party in saying that partisan considerations should not be allowed to affect our thinking on this matter. It may be that a general election is not far off, but, whether it is or not, while these great issues must be discussed freely and publicly they should be excluded from the realm of party politics, because they rank in importance far above such problems as we discuss and contend about in our local communities.

I would like to mention from a non-partisan standpoint and pay tribute to the work which has been done by our representatives at the United Nations, and to express pride at the place this country is taking in connection with these momentous affairs. Without respect to party, or to any political affiliations whatsoever, all possible encouragement should be given to those who, facing the tremendous issues of the hour, are doing their best to act as mediators and co-ordinators. And that, I believe, is exactly what our Canadian representatives are trying to do, and I believe with very helpful effect.

Hon. L. M. Gouin: Honourable senators, I wish in the first place to congratulate sincerely our junior senator from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. Wall) and my good friend from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Fournier) upon the excellent speeches they delivered in respectively moving and seconding the motion which is now before us.

I have listened with great interest to this debate, but for me to attempt to compliment all who have already spoken would take too long. I listened with particular interest to the remarks so well presented by the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Macdonald).

My contribution will be brief. I simply want to express my opinion on the role played