

I need merely mention in passing, the benefits which will accrue to Canada from the activities of the Social Council, for they are obvious to us all.

Care, however, should be taken that we do not undertake the carrying out of reforms which are not within the jurisdiction of Parliament.

In another place, the Prime Minister made an appeal to some members to make unanimous the decision to send delegates to the San Francisco meeting. I am satisfied that there will be no occasion to make such an appeal to this honourable assembly.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. MARCOTTE: But there is an appeal to be made to some of our fellow citizens. We love peace. We have given proof of it by living in harmony with our neighbours for over a century. But unhappily we lack unity in our own country. Differences exist, but really they are only superficial and would disappear in an atmosphere of good will. Let us therefore follow the precepts of the old Chinese philosopher whom I cited some time ago. Let us study and find the causes of our troubles, shed prejudices, remedy injustices—if there be any—and since we are willing to join other nations to promote peace in the world, let us unite with our brother citizens to preserve peace in our Canadian family.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. W. McL. ROBERTSON: I am sure, honourable senators, that to anyone who has been privileged to hear the very excellent addresses which have been made in this Chamber on this resolution—to which those of the honourable senators from Ponteix (Hon. Mr. Marcotte) and from Vancouver (Hon. Mr. McRae) are no exception—it must be a matter for regret that this House does not in the circumstances have the opportunity of exercising a greater influence upon the thought of Canada in particular and of the world at large in general.

No greater opportunity could come to us than to exercise our ability to think clearly and objectively with respect to the problems implicit in this resolution and the other great problems that will face this country in the momentous days that lie ahead. After all, every one of us wants security and prosperity for Canada, and I make no excuse for mentioning both together because I believe they are indivisible and must be given careful thought as far as our future plans are concerned. It is well that we give to our delegates who may go to the conference at San Francisco and to other international conferences the benefit of our ideas.

Some very excellent views have been expressed in the course of this debate. I was particularly impressed by one remark in the very excellent address of the honourable senator from Inkerman (Hon. Mr. Hugessen), which we listened to with so much pleasure a few days ago. Referring to the question of Canada's seat, or lack of it, on the Security Council, he said that the Assembly and the committees arising out of it, provided for in these proposals, might well be even more important in future than the Security Council itself. I regard the Security Council as being the policeman of the future as far as world affairs are concerned. It will be the responsibility and duty of those who comprise the Assembly to rebuild this world so that the desire for war will have passed, when the work of the policeman would be of a very limited nature. This being so, I can offer no further suggestions to those already made in regard to the Security Council. I should like however, to suggest to the delegates who will represent us at San Francisco that we in this House should give them the benefit of our views with respect to the questions which may arise in the Assembly or in the committees to be set up by the Assembly. It is quite possible that in the time at their disposal the delegates will only be able to set up the necessary framework to consider these particular matters. The Committee on Economic and Social Affairs is of such vital importance to us that I think our representatives should lose no opportunity of discussing the removal of the barriers to international trade, whether the opportunity arises in the fashioning of the framework for the consideration of that question in the future or in conversation with individual members, because I believe from the bottom of my heart that the future peace and prosperity of the world depends upon such removal and that it would have the most vital effect upon the whole future trend of mankind.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: If that be so, and I think it is generally recognized, it is particularly desirable that our delegates should be dynamic and aggressive and positive in respect to the matter, because, as the honourable senator from Vancouver pointed out, there are very great objections and obstacles in the way.

The question is an important one, honourable senators, because our economy depends to such a large extent on international trade. In the three years before the war less than seven per cent of the production of the United States was exported. Even the United Kingdom, which is looked upon always as one of the greatest trading nations, exported only