

management which it has sought to achieve with the help of labour itself during the war. Without this understanding there will be no solution of the kind of problems which face us in this debate and during these days.

The Minister of Supply and Reconstruction (Mr. Howe), under whose direction Canada's war production attained tremendous proportions, has instituted the principle of industrial councils. To some, the progress resulting from this endeavour may not seem as great as was anticipated. A problem remains to be faced. Perhaps more can be accomplished through the agency of conciliation and persuasion than by any other method. The satisfactory relations between employers and workers in Great Britain and in other older countries have resulted from a policy of persuasion and conciliation. In the opinion of this government the problems which fifty years ago attended labour and management in Britain, and which now face our newer country, can be dealt with in the same measure and through the same agency. In meeting this problem, as a member of this government, I say to this house, as the Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell) will say when he comes to speak, this government is determined to exert its utmost power to see that the gains of labour are not lost, that labour shall not be compelled to forfeit its right to bargain, to protect itself through its own organization along designated lines, and if existing legislation does not seem always to be adequate to the occasion, upon the presentation of suggestions for improvement the fullest consideration is given to them by the departments concerned. This was revealed in the statement of the Minister of Labour as to proposals laid before the provinces in the recent conference, proposals embodying changes in labour legislation which will depend upon the attitude not only of this government and of labour, but of the provinces themselves, to whom under our constitution is reserved the important field of labour legislation.

So I say, Mr. Speaker, taking the cue from the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar, that you cannot have a satisfactory solution of the problems of reconversion unless there is a proper relationship between the government and labour and between management and labour. I take the cue and say that this government is determined to do everything within its power to see that these relations are satisfactory and are maintained. It wishes to guarantee to labour the right to organize; it wishes to give labour an opportunity of sitting down with government and with industry, of being informed of its prob-

[Mr. Martin.]

lems, its purposes and its intentions. It means to make labour a partner in the great effort which now faces this country.

I say these things because they are basic in a successful handling of the tremendous problems which face us at the moment and in the months that lie immediately ahead.

The Prime Minister, with representatives of the party led by the leader of the opposition and the party of which the C.C.F. leader is the head, went to San Francisco a few months ago to make a contribution, with the other free nations of the world, to a mechanism to maintain order among the nations of the world. In a debate like this, where the government's general policies are being outlined, is it amiss to rise in one's place and say that we have reason to be proud of the part which that delegation played at San Francisco? The contribution made by the Prime Minister, the contribution made by every other member of the delegation, including the former acting leader of the Progressive Conservative party, and the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation were notable. And if that organization, the united nations charter, does not emerge with success, none of these problems that we have discussed here will succeed. For never in the history of the world were we so dependent for security at home as we are to-day upon the measure of collaboration which must persist between ourselves and other countries of the world. That is why basically in the government's post-war plans, in the government's reconversion plans, is its policy of collaboration with the other nations of the world so integral.

I would call the attention of the house particularly to the contribution made by Canada to the framework of the social and economic council, a social and economic council designed by the nations to provide on an international level for those policies which will give opportunity to the various countries to furnish high levels of employment and to make provision for social security. In the language of Mr. Evatt, no country made a greater contribution to the important work of the social and economic council than did Canada. In fact, in the present provisions of the social and economic council dealing with measures for high employment, dealing with measures for better working hours, dealing with measures for better health, nutrition and so on, Canada was responsible practically for rewriting the whole Dumbarton Oaks proposals which were presented to the San Francisco conference and now form a part of that charter which was intended by article 5 of the Atlantic charter to be given to the masses of the world. Therefore, in considering this post-war policy, in

considering this policy of reconversion, one should not hesitate to mention the contribution made by Canada to the social and economic council.

My final word is this—and it is where I began. The problems of the war were met in this country by a united people. Apart from our differences in this house, the contribution of parliament itself during the war was on a high level. Let each of us dedicate himself anew to the new task that lies ahead, in the same spirit of understanding, in the same spirit of cooperation. That guaranteed, we can go on to levels that will place us first among the nations of the world.

On motion of Mr. Lalonde the debate was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I move the adjournment of the house. The first order of business to-morrow is interim supply and, following that, the resumption of the debate.

Mr. KNOWLES: Both civil and war?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.17 p.m.

The following is the English translation of a speech delivered in French on the date indicated.

Monday, September 10, 1945.

Mr. ELIE O. BERTRAND (Prescott): Mr. Speaker, at the end of hostilities, after six years of war, it is my wish that my first words in this parliament should be uttered in thankfulness to Divine Providence for having protected the armies of the allied nations and given us victory over our enemies. It now behooves every citizen and every nation to contribute to the triumph of righteousness over the forces of evil. May that be accomplished and may Christian charity bestow to the world a truly enduring peace.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate you heartily on having been selected to preside over the debates of this house. The post which you occupy honours both yourself and your compatriots. We are pleased that it should have gone to one so competent to fill it.