

terms they want put in these treaties, and probably Canada could have got agreement to the submissions we had filed with us here on January 30. Then those submissions could have been presented at Moscow as the joint submissions for the peace treaties. Certainly Great Britain would not have objected to that procedure. You see, Mr. Speaker, no other belligerents are in the same position as are the nations of the British empire. Our organization as an empire is such that the various nations of the commonwealth can sit in, and we could take advantage of that position now. I suggest that, if we cannot get full participation in any other way, we should follow that course. Later, when the conference is called, we could attend as a nation, just as we did the conference called for the settling of the treaties with the satellite states; and we would, of course, ratify the settlement, treaty, or whatever it might be, individually as Canada.

These peace settlements or treaties are the unfinished business of the second world war. They are not, as I have already pointed out, to be confused with the united nations organization. We fought and won the war as a British partnership. For one whole year we stood against the enemy alone and saved civilization; we stood and fought as an empire, and we could make the peace treaties in the same way.

In conclusion, let me place just two questions before the house and before the Canadian people. First, how can Canada exert the most authority in world affairs? Second, how can Canadians best make sure of world peace? I submit that the answer to both those questions is as follows. Not only by her stand as a nation on the issues that come up, but also by strengthening the British empire. That is the best way for us to have our ideas put into effect. I have an authority for that statement Right Hon. Vincent Massey. Speaking in Vancouver on November 15, 1946, he used these words:

We have, in my belief, far greater influence in the world as a member of the British family than otherwise would be ours. We have, in a sense, a double status. I am quite sure from any experience that I may have been able to gain that the fact that Canada appears on the international scene, not only as an important country on her own account—which we are—but also as a member of a great association gives her both enhanced prestige and increased importance.

World peace is the greatest concern of every thinking Canadian. In the world today we have two giant powers, the United States and Russia, each very conscious of its strength,

[Mr. Green.]

each in effect having a veto over any actions by the other nations because they have such great strength. Those two great nations have ideologies that are totally different, as was pointed out this afternoon by the hon. member for Chambly-Rouville (Mr. Pinard). If they alone dominate the world scene, sooner or later they will clash; and if they ever clash, Canada will be the Belgium of a third world war. Canada will be the nut in the nut-cracker if that happens. The surest way to prevent a clash is to have a strong British empire. It will relieve the tension between the United States and Russia and it will help western Europe to remain democratic.

The empire will always be for peace. Why do I say that? There are several reasons which, I think, cannot be disputed. In the first place, it is so far-flung that it must have peace. It has always been vulnerable in the more remote parts, but today, with the development of modern weapons, Great Britain herself is vulnerable. More and more the empire is dependent on a working united nations. I do not think it can be questioned either that today Great Britain is the most ardent for peace of the three great powers.

Mr. MITCHELL: Would you not include the United States in that?

Mr. GREEN: As I said, I think of the three, Great Britain is the most ardent for peace. So I repeat that the answer to these questions is: not only by Canada's stand as a nation but also by strengthening the British empire. I believe that the majority in every party in this house will agree with that. Certainly that is the opinion of everybody in my own, the Progressive Conservative party.

Let us see to it that Canada stands beside Great Britain. You have only to look at the *Ottawa Journal* of last Friday and you will see this heading, "Britain asking United States to take over in Greece." In the first paragraph of a report from Washington we find these words:

Britain, her domestic economy near the breaking point, was reported in congressional and diplomatic quarters today to have proposed that the United States take over her commitments in Greece on a large scale.

We all know that Britain is in serious trouble. Let Canada accept more responsibility for keeping the empire strong. Canada has grown stronger during the war, much stronger than she was before, largely because she was remote from the fighting. We were able to develop and to grow strong. I believe that eventually Canada will be the strongest