

should they differ in any particular with the views that may be presented by the government. For that reason I think it would be inadvisable to delay the debate. I agree with the leader of the C.C.F. group that it was decided yesterday that we would proceed with this resolution this afternoon, though you, Mr. Speaker, will have to express your opinion on that point; and that any hon. members who wished to speak would be given an opportunity to do so, though if there were others who were not prepared they would not be compelled to go on to-day. I am sure it was understood that if in the debate we ran short of speakers we would take up something else, but that provided we did not run out we would go on with the debate until it was concluded.

This is a resolution which is before the house. It is not a discussion in committee. It is a resolution of which hon. members must express either approval or disapproval. I do submit that the sooner this resolution can be dealt with by this house the more pleased the free nations of the world will be to learn that this parliament is united, as I trust it may be, in accepting the invitation that has been extended to this country to participate in the San Francisco conference.

Mr. GRAYDON: The Prime Minister has dealt with one or two matters which perhaps I should clear up. It is not a question of this party being ready or not ready in regard to making speeches. This party is anxious to know the proposals of the government in order that we may study them. We do not ask for a very long time to do so; we are not anxious for a lengthy adjournment of this debate. But it is all very well for the government to ask us to hurry with something to which we want to give some study, when this government has deliberately squeezed into three weeks that which normally should have been dealt with in three months, in a session starting in January instead of in March. Having that definitely in mind it did not seem to me there was very much wrong with the suggestion that we be given time at least to study the matter. In due course, and very quickly, the Prime Minister will learn where this party stands. There is no disposition on our part to quibble or in any way delay the proceedings; but I think *Hansard* will show and the public will understand that the position we take is entirely justifiable and is one which will meet the public interest generally.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

## SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

### PROPOSED GENERAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on account of the great importance of this subject and the desire of hon. members to have the fullest possible information in regard to the government's point of view I have devoted considerable time to the preparation of what I have to say. I feel that, instead of attempting to speak extemporaneously, it would be helpful if I gave my remarks to the house in the form of a statement. I hope that, in the course of reading this statement, I may not be interrupted, but when the statement is concluded, if there are any questions in the minds of hon. members arising out of what I have said I shall be very glad to attempt to answer them. As, of course, I shall be speaking again at the conclusion of the debate, it is my intention to follow as closely as possible the points raised by hon. members in the course of their remarks with a view to being able to give the house, before the debate concludes, any additional information the house may wish to have. I may add that were it not for the fact that I believe hon. members on all sides of the house are likely to be in very full agreement with the purposes and principles of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals and with the resolution now before the house I would perhaps not be so desirous of proceeding as rapidly as possible with this resolution. I think the matter is one on which hon. members already have more or less made up their minds. In this debate I trust there will be very little in the way of diversity of opinion or occasion for any kind of party controversy.

Hon. members will have felt a special interest in the following paragraph which appears in the speech from the throne, opening the present session of parliament:

The government has accepted the invitation to Canada to send representatives to a conference of the united nations to be held on April 25 at San Francisco to prepare a charter for a general international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security. My ministers are of the opinion that the Canadian delegation at the San Francisco conference should be assured of the widest possible measure of support from parliament. A joint resolution of both houses will, accordingly, be submitted for your approval.

The invitation to the conference at San Francisco reads as follows:

Embassy of the  
United States of America,  
Ottawa, Canada

No. 293

March 5, 1945.

Sir,—The government of the United States of America, on behalf of itself and of the governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain