

*The Address—Mr. Green*

The third subject has to do with the new Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson). I hope he also will accept my suggestion. It is that there is a need for a Canadian policy in the Pacific at the present time. Nobody knows our policy with regard to what is going on around that ocean. The government are extremely busy about the Atlantic pact. I sometimes think they are so busy looking south to Washington to see what the Americans want done that they have not time to look out west to see what is going on in the Pacific. But the happenings around the Pacific ocean are of the utmost concern to the people of British Columbia who live on the Pacific slope; and Canada as a nation is vitally interested in what is going on around that ocean. At this moment there is an urgency about these questions, for at least two reasons and probably for many more. First of all, on January 14 we had a press dispatch from Ottawa and Washington printed in one of the Vancouver papers. The heading reads as follows, "Pacific countries to join vast bloc." Then it goes on to say that there is to be a history-making, southern hemisphere security alliance between British commonwealth countries, and it lists the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and possibly India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Malaya. The article also says:

Announcement of the new alliance, it is thought, will be timed just before the signing of the north Atlantic alliance, scheduled for early February.

If there is any truth in this article, there is urgency about this question. The article goes on to say that Canada will give the pact its blessing but that she is not greatly interested in joining. The article also says:

Politically, it is felt an attempt to organize the commonwealth as a defensible unit might be disturbing to both the United States and the western union.

I would point out to the Secretary of State for External Affairs that Canada has the closest of ties with Australia and New Zealand in particular, and with South Africa. We have not only ties of trade, but we have planes flying into Vancouver only three or four days out of Australia. We now have the passenger ship service to Australia resumed. We are greatly interested in what goes on in those sister dominions. We had young Australian airmen going through Vancouver when they came here to train under the British commonwealth air training plan. There is a close tie between the Pacific coast of Canada and the British nations out in the Pacific. What is happening is that trade is falling off. I have here in my hand *Foreign Trade*, a publication of the Department of Trade and Commerce, for January 29. It points out that there has been a marked decline in Canadian trade with Australia and New Zealand. We

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are just drifting apart. If a regional pact is to be set up for the Pacific, I urge that Canada should become a full partner in that pact. We have our dead lying over there in Hong Kong. We have taken a most active part in the Pacific in the days that are gone, and we must not turn our backs on the Pacific at this time.

There is another reason why we in Canada need a Pacific policy, namely, the happenings in China and Japan. Canada is a member of the Far Eastern Commission. I was greatly interested to read the statement made by James F. Byrnes, secretary of state in the United States, when he outlined to the members of the Far Eastern Commission back in 1946 just what its functions were. I do not suppose that half a dozen members in this house tonight realize that Canada is a member of that commission. Here is what Mr. Byrnes said that commission should do:

"Peace in the Pacific," he said, "is an essential cornerstone to a stable world structure. The guidance of Japan to a position of peaceful association with other nations is therefore a task of major responsibility. That responsibility now belongs to you of the Far Eastern Commission."

And Canada is one of the members of that commission. Perhaps the present Secretary of State for External Affairs was our representative when this speech was made. The quotation continues:

"The terms of reference agreed to last December in Moscow placed the final and ultimate responsibility for formulating the policies and principles upon which the peace and security of the Pacific may well be based, in your hands."

Things are not going so well in the Pacific. There is serious trouble in China. In the last edition of "U.S. News and World Report," January 28, 1949, I was interested to see an article entitled, "Why U.S. is failing in Asia". It goes on to point out that the United States is getting into grave trouble in the east because of the policy she is following in Japan. The article says:

Hostility toward the U.S. has intensified throughout Asia during the last year or so because of the trend of American policy in Japan. Chinese of all factions fear Japan is being restored to war-making strength by the U.S. The correspondent, in one week, heard this fear expressed by a premier, a business man, a labour leader, a newspaper man and a banker. All feel that the attempt to build a strong Japan in a chaotic Orient is tending to preserve the power of the "old gang" that plotted and ran the war.

Further on the article continues:

Most Asiatics appreciate America's concern regarding Russia. What worries them is a growing suspicion that the U.S., in a desire to convert Japan into a bulwark against Russia, is neglecting the democratization of the former enemy. They are convinced that Japan, while it may emerge strong, quite probably will not be democratic.