

of nations there is now no single dominating land power. Its organization by its very nature makes for peace and not for war. Positive knowledge by the world as well as by members of the commonwealth that Canada means to be a loyal partner in that family of nations will do more than anything else to give it the moral power and prestige now so essential to the cause of world peace.

If we now fail that great family of British nations and it should thus be made weaker at this critical time in the world's history, Canada will eventually find itself but a satellite of the United States of America, at first to become dominated by it economically, and later on to become absorbed politically into that great republic.

I am one who does not think that Canada can achieve her highest destiny by weakening the family of British nations only to become eventually a forty-ninth state in the American union. If any such world calamity as the break-up of the fraternity of British nations should occur, the North American continent would find itself eventually an island in a potentially unfriendly world, a consummation which I feel sure no friend of world peace can look forward to with an easy mind.

Looking at the geography and political structure of the world at the moment, I am of the firm belief that the British commonwealth and empire, with its ramifications in all corners of the world, constitutes the greatest cohesive element in that structure of world unity which is now for the first time taking a definite form in the minds of men. Let us then preserve the important balancing factor in the three spheres of influence that dominate it. Let us strengthen that community of nations called the British commonwealth. Let us be proud to acknowledge our faith in it and the part we are to play in it. Let us no longer be hesitant to say that we will do our part in preserving it. Let any nation that raises the ugly prospect of destroying peace in our time know that we in Canada are a firm and loyal partner, not alone within the family of British nations but in the larger family of the united nations as well, and that we are prepared to take our part and assume our obligations within both.

Mr. Speaker, in some of these remarks I have been critical of certain of the policies of the government and its administration of them. I wish now to move, seconded by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon):

That the following words be added to the said address:

"We respectfully submit to Your Excellency that Your Excellency's advisers have:

[Mr. Bracken.]

(1) Failed to meet the needs of veterans and workers by planning reconversion so as to avoid unemployment and dislocation;

(2) Failed to take adequate and timely action to ensure the provision of suitable housing for Canadians;

(3) Failed to adjust their agricultural production plans to meet the altered conditions of the world's demands;

(4) Failed to relieve the tax burden particularly on low income groups."

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, when my hon. friend, the leader of the opposition (Mr. Bracken) continued the debate following the mover and the seconder on Friday last, he very appropriately introduced his remarks by reference to the departure of the then Governor General and the arrival in the near future of the Governor General designate. I should like immediately to join with him in what he said with respect to both governors-general. We have parted with Lord Athlone and with Princess Alice, with the deepest regret. I believe that regret has been felt in all parts of Canada.

I am sure the house will be pleased to know that on Sunday I received a telegram from Lord Athlone from Washington expressing very warm appreciation of the manner in which the citizens of the capital had turned out to greet him and Princess Alice on their departure, and referring more particularly to the feelings which they will always cherish in regard to the years they spent in Canada. Lord Athlone used the expression that their association with the people of this dominion will be for each of them an imperishable memory.

As the house is aware His Majesty the King has designated Lord Alexander of Tunis to be the successor of the former Governor General. I think I am correct in saying that when Lord Alexander's appointment was announced there was not only approval but rejoicing in all parts of Canada that one who had played such a brilliant part in the great war, and who, as their Commander, had been so closely associated with Canadian troops in the battles in Sicily and in Italy, and in the victories there achieved, was to come to this country as the representative of the king. The approval given at that time, and the expressions of feeling, have deepened since the announcement was made. I need not say any more at the moment than that I am sure that when Lord Alexander arrives in Canada he will receive one of the warmest welcomes ever extended to any representative of the crown in this country.