

conflict in Ethiopia brought about a strained condition. Mussolini is favourably disposed to a renewal of friendly relations, and that will be a contribution towards the peace of Europe. How did Canada, a country which is supposed to have a foreign affairs department, act regarding Italy? She passed sanctions. When the Prime Minister was away the Minister of Justice had to tell the country that those sanctions had been abrogated and cancelled. It was well that he did cancel them, because certainly we have no force with which to back up sanctions. If the empire or Great Britain fails, our country will no longer exist as a dominion. In my opinion the empire stands to-day as a bulwark of peace and freedom which it is our duty to try to maintain for all time to come. Mr. Chamberlain said the other day that he would fight himself for the preservation of democracy, which means liberty.

As a result of the Statute of Westminster each part of the British Empire has its own foreign policy and its own defence policy. Look at what has happened in connection with Ireland and South Africa. Those countries have been completely out of the empire since that statute was passed. They have abolished the office of governor general, they have abolished God Save the King as their anthem, and they have eliminated the king's head from their coinage. Appeals to the privy council no longer are made by these countries. They are separate sovereign states just like Mexico or Italy. They are free to set up as republics with their own presidents and give no allegiance whatsoever to the mother country. General Hertzog refuses to take the privy councillor's oath. He has announced that no longer will the king's name appear in the statutes of that country. That is the way they have acted.

During the last hundred years we have been completely dependent upon the motherland. I do not believe in this policy of secrecy. As I said the other day I can remember in 1914 when the late Lord Roberts was laughed at because he predicted that a war was coming. A number of public men in Great Britain like Asquith and Haldane and Runciman said that there would be no war. Yet three days before it actually did come, Lord Roberts predicted that it would come. In my opinion, silence in connection with foreign affairs is a mistake. It would be far better if the government took the country into its confidence. We should have had information long ago as to what is Canada's defence policy and what is Canada's foreign

policy. I have been trying to find out for the last three or four sessions what our foreign policy is. It seems impossible to get answers to these questions.

Our foreign policy should be wrapped up with that of the mother country. Never has it been more necessary that this should be done than now. There is no use in saying that we can depend upon pan-Americanism and the Monroe doctrine. We depended upon them in the past and they were found wanting. We are entirely dependent upon the mother country for our liberty and freedom. It has been stated that an army, an air force and a fleet is unnecessary. The pacifists in England persuaded the British government to disarm. They carried on this agitation and the motherland threw away the finest navy, army and air force in the world. Such defences are not built up in a day, they cannot be got together in a generation. In my opinion, the people of Canada would like to see this government give some recognition and credit to the motherland for our dependency upon her for the freedom we enjoy. It has been said that we have been given no information. For the past four months this house has been practically tongue-tied as far as Canada's affairs and foreign policy are concerned. We now realize that we are absolutely undefended except for what help might come from the motherland. The people have lost all confidence in the organization of the league.

The mother country has spent \$618,000,000 in building up a navy to protect Canada's shores. Great Britain is our only hope, but she has to make up the ground she has lost since 1922 when she threw away all her agencies for defence. Since 1922 we have not only thrown away our defences, we have lost our friends. We parted with our Japanese allies at the conference in Washington. We see the result in Shanghai where we were the helpless witnesses of the destruction of our prestige and wealth. We have quarrelled with Italy, one of our best friends, and have driven her into the camp of our enemies. Not content with these terrible blunders, we have loosened the structure of our empire until the ties that bind us to southern Ireland have disappeared wholly, while those that held us to South Africa are attenuated to a thread held in the hands of a few British and Dutch in that country. Further, our government is coquetting with an American trade agreement which, if successful, will create a permanent wedge between us and the other dominions. They will be encouraged to look elsewhere for support.