

The Address—Mr. Churchill

—for instance, has evolved from an imperial centre through the transformation of colonial dependencies into free states who have chosen to remain in political association with each other and with the parent state. Evolution without revolution has been of unique value not only to the nations most directly concerned, but to the world at large. That world should not forget what it owes to the United Kingdom for originating and directing this process—which, of course, has not been completed.

Just imagine the applause in London in response to those words.

I can assure you that Canada is happy about its position in the commonwealth and has no desire to see that position weakened. To us it means independence to which something else has been added.

And yet, in this recent crisis, although I do not think he has been happy to see the commonwealth weakened, he has been a lag-gard in strengthening the commonwealth as we would like to see it strengthened.

Mr. Brooks: It is the company he keeps.

Mr. Churchill: In the two or three minutes left to me I would just like to say this. My good friend and colleague, the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Pearkes), dealt very effectively with the military aspect of the emergency force in his speech this afternoon and he dumped a bucket of cold water on the head of the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Campney), who should have entered the debate at that time and made some reply.

The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich pointed out all the weaknesses and the ineffectiveness of the type of force that is being produced at the present time. Even if it is raised to 6,000 men they have to guard a frontier of 1,000 miles and we would have approximately one man per mile and no armoured force, no airborne force and no artillery; and yet do we think that men armed just with rifles are going to be able to effectively defend themselves against any raiding force employing armoured cars or tanks or an attack by aeroplanes?

It is a great risk that is being run and I hope the Minister of National Defence will deal with this problem in order to assure us that our Canadian forces will not be endangered unnecessarily.

Mr. Speaker, I would close with these words. I think we are living in a state of fear and I am tired of this state of fear that is being held over our heads day after day. We live in the fear that we must not say a harsh word against Russia and we must not criticize the United States with regard to its

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policies because there will be a third world war.

We heard about the fear of a second world war all throughout the thirties. We were treated to pictures showing the destruction and horror of the first world war and men with torn bodies hanging on barbed wire. I can see those ghastly pictures even now. Book after book told us what would happen if the second world war developed and we were told how poison gas would ruin every nation of the world and the cities would be blotted out in 24 hours. We lived in that fear and the fear resulted in the rise of dictators, in a weakening of the democracies, and brought about the second world war.

At this present stage we are living in fear of a third world war. We are told that if we do anything to annoy Russia she will rattle the rockets and we will have to scurry for cover. And yet, at the same time, I do not think Russia is going to risk a third world war. However, with the democracies shrinking back in fear Russia can gain more power here, there and elsewhere and in another ten years we will not require a third world war to drive us into subjection.

We are selling our souls. We are selling our birthright at this time just through fear, fear, fear. This fear is being produced by statements all the time and we have to be mollified. Our leaders of the government here from time to time in response to queries have to say, "We do not think there will be any war this year," and then we are greeted by a great headline in the press and we relax.

But, Mr. Speaker, when the crisis comes we have to be ready and the time has come for us to stop living in this state of fear and prepare for the worst and stand fast on all occasions and keep strong the British commonwealth of nations and by force of argument to compel the United Nations to become an effective force in the world for peace. Let us not be deluded by resolutions and by observer groups. We must have some power and some sanction behind the United Nations if we are going to prevent the small wars that occur from time to time and if we are going to prevent even greater wars.

Some hon. Members: Time.

Mr. Rowe: You do not like that because it is too true.

(Translation):

Mr. J. Wilfrid Dufresne (Quebec West): Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of delaying this