

flowing. In this matter we cannot be represented by other parts of the British commonwealth of nations because when this war is over we shall not see eye to eye with them in trade matters. Take for instance Australia, one of the countries which the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. MacInnis) and I had an opportunity of visiting last summer. I am afraid that Australia will be putting up tariffs instead of taking them off when this war is over. There are in every country special interests that always want tariffs and try to find good excuses for having them imposed. While I was over there I heard certain industrialists say: "We were not prepared for war with Japan, and we had to build up certain industries so as to be able to fight this war; therefore, in order to be in a position to fight another war if it ever comes, we are going to have to build, by protection, industry in this country." That is a story that has been heard in many countries for many years. In Canada we have found during this war that in order to produce for war it was better for us to lower our tariffs than to raise them. We have found that it was better for us to allow products of one kind or another to flow freely across the boundary between the United States and Canada, because thereby both countries were able to produce more, and more economically, than they could have done without that free flow of goods.

Canada is to send a delegation to San Francisco. As the member for Swift Current (Mr. Graham) said a few moments ago, we are extremely fortunate in this country in having the Prime Minister we have to head that delegation. For many years, long before the President of the United States assumed that office, the Prime Minister was a personal friend of that man, and that personal friendship has allowed Canada and the United States, the Prime Minister and the President, to sit down together time after time during this war, and indeed before it, and work out things to the great advantage of both countries.

We must send to that conference in San Francisco men from all parties, if you will, but men of good will all of them, men prepared to go there and sit down with the representatives of other nations and discuss matters for the benefit of all nations and not just for our own little needs as we see them ourselves.

We have become a great nation during this war. We have become the leader of the secondary nations and we must be ready and willing to take our place in that conference. When that time comes the Prime Minister will select the men to go with him on that delegation, and the contribution that will be

made by him and by the delegation from Canada will have an effect on the world for many years to come.

Mr. LIGUORI LACOMBE (Laval-Two Mountains) (Translation): Mr. Chairman, this house is not authorized to send representatives to the San Francisco conference, for the following reasons: In that place and time, even the Prime Minister himself (Mr. King) would not be speaking on behalf of Canada. If he does, all he says and accomplishes will be null and void. After April 17, his term as member of this house will have expired. The same thing applies to the leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) and every one of the hon. members of this house, including myself; our terms of office will have run out. So as to be truly representative, one needs a mandate. Neither the Prime Minister, the leader of the opposition nor any member of the present parliament will be authorized to represent Canada at San Francisco, on April 25. They will represent nobody, absolutely no one. I know of certain drafters of charters who, although authorized to do so, found out after two years of study, that they had accomplished nothing. What could we expect of such a delegation to San Francisco? Neither a charter nor any valid agreements. Such a delegation will have no authority whatever to bind Canada at the conference. Let us not take any undertakings that the next parliament will never ratify. Only a new house comprising representatives of the people could discharge the right to send delegates to the conference from its newly elected members. For my part, I refuse to vote a single cent of the public funds to defray the expenses of this delegation whose powers will be nil and whose decisions will be void, because they will be exercised or taken by persons not responsible to the Canadian people.

To allow the Prime Minister and members of this parliament to represent our country at this conference would constitute the worst form of cynicism. Safeguard of democracy and of the government of the people by the people; protector of freedom, of justice and of right; defender of christianity and minorities; battling side by side with Soviet Russia, will Canada dare delegate to San Francisco a Prime Minister ruling without a mandate over a country with no parliament? If that should happen, nothing is impossible. Once again our constitution is trampled under foot by the very man and the very government who so many times were returned to power by arguments in defence of this constitution. Liberty, justice, right and minorities have been violated and disregarded by an administration