

of \$167,255,000. We were glad to give these weapons to the U.S.S.R. and will never forget the good use made of them against the common enemy. But we cannot believe that the Soviet government has forgotten our contribution to the war, nor our direct interest in what was at stake in the war, or that it can believe that distinctions such as that could be contemplated.

Mr. GRAYDON: There is something more to it than that.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Nor is it possible that the Soviet government is under any misapprehension as to who will bear the burden of German aggression if ever it is renewed. It is to countries such as ours on this continent that the U.S.S.R. would again look for the industrial production that would have to be mobilized and used.

I should like now to indicate our attitude generally to the proposals on procedure which emerged in London. In our comments on procedure we have had two main objects in view. One has been to provide for a more satisfactory participation of the associated powers at a stage when their views could have some effect. It proved to be very difficult at Paris to have anything changed that the great powers had previously agreed upon. The second has been to avoid a repetition of the annoyance of that process by which the allies were assembled in Paris to discuss the terms of settlement with Italy and other satellite states at a time when you could not get anything altered without very great difficulty. In the Canadian view, the procedure best suited to achieve these objects would be to give the associated powers an opportunity to consider and comment on the drafts at an early stage. We recognize that the primary responsibility for the settlement will rest with the four great powers. We realize that the general principles of peace will be established by the council of foreign ministers, and we realize that they may insist on the right to review the settlement before the draft is put into final form for signature.

On the other hand, between the meetings at which the council of foreign ministers indicate the general principles of settlement acceptable to them at the meeting which will open next Monday, and the time when there will be drafts ready for signature, there will be ample opportunity for the work of dozens of committees on the terms of this settlement. There will have to be dozens of working committees to consider and prepare the detailed material that will have to

be incorporated in the final statute or treaty.

At the Paris conference in 1946, the conference, after a preliminary debate on procedure, separated into ten different committees; these committees had subcommittees, and it was in these committees and subcommittees that such achievements as did result from the conference were made. It was only here that the associated states had any real opportunity to recommend revisions of the text.

The Canadian government believes that a process similar to the commission stage of the Paris conference should be introduced at a much earlier period in the preparation of the settlement with Germany.

Mr. GRAYDON: That is between the Moscow meeting and the general conference.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: At the Potsdam conference, and even before that, as early as the Moscow conference of 1943, the general principles with respect to the settlement with Austria were agreed to and published. The general principles with respect to the settlement with Germany have not yet been agreed to and published, and it is at this preliminary meeting at Moscow, which will open next week, that it is expected that the foreign ministers will coordinate their views as to the general principles; and it will be weeks and months after that before the details to carry out these general principles will be worked out. It is, we think, at that period that the allied powers should be associated in the committee work.

There should be on these committees a wide membership of states which participated in the war against Germany. We do not suggest that every state would have to be represented on every committee, but we do think there should be a wide representation of all the allies on these working committees.

Mr. GRAYDON: Functional representation.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Functional representation, and that is something which would create the feeling that the allies had not only been allied to win the victory but had also been together and worked together to shape the peace. It is also the view of the Canadian government that consideration should be given to bringing about the settlement with Germany gradually.

We think the international statute form would be preferable to a treaty signed by nominees of all the allies acting nominally as a government of Germany. We think it would be just as well to be open and above board about it and to say, "We are imposing this regime; under this regime you will set up a