

occurred to me that it might be appropriate to bring this matter to the notice of our Internal Economy Committee, to the end that the offending plate be removed and another substituted therefor which would more appropriately describe those who serve us so well. Perhaps the wording could be "Senate Support Staff," because I think all honourable senators will agree that these persons effectively support the work done here.

### UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

#### TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY TOMORROW

**Hon. Paul Martin:** Honourable senators, the Prime Minister informed me this morning that, in accordance with practice, he will tomorrow in the other place make a statement on the occasion of the twenty-fourth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. It has been our practice to commemorate this important event. As we will not be sitting tomorrow, I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that today would be an appropriate time for us in this chamber to reaffirm our faith and confidence in the United Nations, whose anniversary is tomorrow.

As honourable senators will recall, the Charter of the United Nations was signed in San Francisco, in April, 1945. In the light of the many problems that have confronted our world, that now seems a long time ago. Actually, in the course of human affairs, it is not so long. The United Nations has been in existence at least four years longer than the League of Nations. Like the League of Nations, it has not been free of its problems, vicissitudes and criticisms.

The United Nations is truly the successor of the League of Nations. When we think of the League we think of the notable part played in that collective security organization, the creature of the Treaty of Versailles, by a former Leader of the Government in the Senate, Senator Raoul Dandurand.

The United Nations has undergone great changes. It has withstood much legitimate and unfair criticism. Whatever criticisms are its due, they, of course, must be answered by governments and by its Secretary General. However, what is wrong with the United Nations today is not so much the charter; it is not so much the organization itself. That charter is as solid, as substantial, as valid and as useful as ever. What is wrong principally is the intransigence of many of its members who have not lived up to their obligations.

Senator O'Leary, who has spoken about this on other occasions, may invoke a contrary argument and an authority in the person of George F. Kennan. Notwithstanding that, I reaffirm that Canada has every reason to be strongly attached to the United Nations. I state that the responsibility for some of its difficulties should be attributed to the intransigence of some of its members rather than to a weakness in its charter.

As a strong proponent of the United Nations, I deplore the fact that the great issues of our time, such as the Vietnam question, and the problems of the Middle East, are not being resolved in the United Nations. There are reasons for this. In the case of Vietnam, the principal parties concerned are not members of the organization. But it would be folly, in my judgment, in this interdependent world, to lose faith now in the Charter of the United Nations and in the organization.

The Canadian people, I know, support the Canadian Government in its renewed dedication and declaration of faith in this collective security effort.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jacques Flynn:** Honourable senators, I believe it is an excellent idea to draw attention to the aims of the United Nations by an annual celebration such as we shall have tomorrow.

Of course, if you consider only Vietnam, the Middle East and Nigeria, it might be enough to cast doubt on the efficiency of that body whose main purpose is to promote, maintain or restore peace—

There is no translation, honourable senators? No. Well, I may then speak in English.

[English]

Is there no translation?

**Hon. Mr. Croll:** No.

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** Then, honourable senators, I shall continue in English.

I have just mentioned that when we think only of Vietnam, Nigeria, and the Middle East we sometimes have doubts as to the efficiency of the United Nations organization. However, even in this field of promoting, maintaining, or re-establishing peace, the United Nations has accomplished a great deal. In any event, I would agree with the honourable Leader of the Government when he says that the shortcomings of the organization may be attributed more to a lack of co-operation on the part of certain of its members than to its charter or the principle of the body itself.