

finds herself through the bungling of her own government. I submit that we in Canada should not accept responsibilities for the results of such bungling, since we have had no voice in it.

Further than that, I should like to say this, that Canada is situated on the North American continent. Geographically and economically we are North American. To no small extent the attitude of our great neighbour must be a determining factor in our international relations. I cannot be accused of being over inclined to the Americans. I come from old United Empire Loyalist stock.

An hon. MEMBER: Are you loyal?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Somebody asks if I am loyal. I believe I am loyal to their spirit to-day.

An hon. MEMBER: You act like it!

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I was nourished in British traditions and ideals. Instead of going to a German or United States university I went to a British university, and if I have any radicalism in me, to a large extent it has come out of Great Britain. I insist on that, and I do not imagine that any great cry of disloyalty will be raised at the moment.

We have boasted of the unguarded border between ourselves and the United States, but we cannot assume too lightly that this condition will continue forever. We assume that the United States is going to be forever with us. I hope they will always be sympathetic with us, but let me say that we enter upon very considerable risks when, along three thousand miles, we begin to take action. I believe that the greatest contribution that Canada can make to Great Britain is to maintain the most friendly possible relations with the United States.

Further than that, I am a Canadian of several generations, and I am proud of it, but the British Canadian in this country is facing an altogether different proposition from a Briton in the British isles, and the sooner that some of our expatriated Britishers realize that, the better. I think, for instance, of Quebec. I know that the Prime Minister would like very much to have the sympathy of Quebec in this war. It is absolutely essential that Canada goes in united. But I think I know a little bit about the Quebec people. They do not regard France as the motherland in the same sense as a great many Englishmen regard England. I do not think anyone is to blame for that. I believe it is a fact. For some little time I had the opportunity of sitting in this house next to one whom I regard as a great French-Canadian, Henri Bourassa, and we had many a talk

[Mr. Woodsworth.]

together. There were a great many matters upon which we were not agreed, but with regard to a good many things I was delighted and perhaps surprised to find that we had a great deal in common. It would be a very serious matter, as the government would realize if it tried to bring in conscription, if unity between Quebec and the English-speaking provinces did not exist.

This afternoon the Prime Minister made a plea for which I honour him, namely, that we should have great toleration for those of other nationalities here in our midst. I was glad that he introduced the matter. About twenty per cent of our population is non-British and non-French in origin; some of them are Germans, some are Slavic, some belong to other races. I would have been almost ashamed, had I been the Prime Minister, to read a telegram from the Japanese-Canadians pledging their loyalty, when we refuse to Canadian-born Japanese the same treatment that we give to other Canadians.

Mr. REID: But they might not have sent it a month ago.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I say this—and the interjection emphasizes the very point I am trying to make—we have a great many nationalities in this country, and one of our first tasks is to produce unity among these nationalities; but it is going to be very difficult indeed, as the last war showed, to unify these peoples if we are going to introduce anything like conscription or the sending of an expeditionary force.

It is only a few months since we erected in Ottawa a memorial to the poor fellows who fell in the last war; it is hardly finished before we are into the next war.

After the last war many of us dreamed a great dream of an ordered world, a world to be founded on justice. But unfortunately the covenant of the League of Nations was tied up with the Versailles treaty, which I regard as an absolutely iniquitous treaty. Under that treaty we tried to crush Germany. We imposed indemnities which have been acknowledged by all to be impossible. We took certain portions of territory. Even French black troops were put into the Rhineland—an indignity much resented at the time by the Germans. We took away colonies, sank ships, and all the rest of it. We know that long, sordid story. To no small extent it was this kind of treatment which created Hitler. I am not seeking to vindicate the things that Hitler has done—not at all. He may be a very devil incarnate, and the Prime Minister might have read a great deal more than the extracts he read to-night. But