

poses to do. I am prepared to support almost in toto most of the things set out in the resolution, but I want to know what is behind them, because there is no more skilful individual on the north American continent in disguising his thoughts than the Prime Minister and we want to know.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): It is a curious example of cooperation to be met with a protest every time one proposes an item on the agenda. That has happened more or less since the house opened.

I am as anxious as any one to cooperate with all parties in the house. I just wish they were as anxious to cooperate with me and with the government. This session has been called for two purposes. That has been made perfectly clear for weeks past. One has to do with this one international question, an all important one. It should be decided at as early a moment as possible. The other is to provide the supply that may be necessary to permit a general election at an early date and to make provision for the carrying on of the prosecution of the war and of civil government between the time of the beginning of the new fiscal year and the time that the new parliament assembles.

We are here to get through the business as rapidly as possible. May I say that if Canada is to be represented at San Francisco to discuss there the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, it will be necessary for some of us who may be expected to be present to spend a little time in advance in giving further study to the questions that are likely to come up in the light of comment that may be made in the interval from many sources. I see no reason why hon. members opposite should not be prepared to speak on this question at once. They have had the Dumbarton Oaks proposals before them for a long time. I tabled in this house on December 5 a copy of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals for establishment of a general international organization for the maintenance of international peace and security. It was tabled in reply in part to some questions asked by my hon. friend the leader of the Social Credit party. I tabled copies as soon as they were printed. This document was distributed immediately to all hon. members, and it has since been distributed widely throughout the country.

Before the house met the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) sent me a question which I understood he wished to ask and to which he might have an immediate reply. I shall answer it now. The question is:

To what extent and through what channels has the wartime information board acquainted the public of Canada since Dumbarton Oaks with respect to the proposals for the establishment of an international organization for the maintenance of peace and security?

The answer is:

The wartime information board has published a pamphlet entitled "Dumbarton Oaks Proposals for the Establishment of a General International Organization", over forty thousand copies of which have been distributed to date. An issue of the booklet series "Canadian Affairs" dealing with the subject is in preparation. Charts illustrating the proposed organization are being prepared for distribution to newspapers and other publications, industrial plants and trade unions and discussion groups.

The information service to independent radio stations is providing a series of notes on the subject for use by these stations. Arrangements are being made to provide material to other radio speakers on this subject.

Assistance has been given to the Canadian Council of Education for Citizenship in making available material regarding Dumbarton Oaks for use by educational bodies and discussion groups.

All that is being done in order that, before the delegation representing Canada proceeds to San Francisco, opinions may be freely expressed by the press by many groups and organizations throughout Canada so that the delegation will be fully informed of the views of the country. But as far as hon. members of the house are concerned, as I have said they have had the proposals before them for months. More than that some of them, at least, I am sure heard the statement I made over the radio on March 2, when I said that parliament would be particularly concerned with this one question and with the voting of necessary supply. I stated specifically that the government would seek the approval of parliament of a resolution which would serve as an expression of its support. They would surely know that this would afford opportunity for debate and discussion of the matter and that the government would wish expression of approval at the earliest possible date. The country is interested in knowing what hon. gentlemen opposite think; not only what I think but what they think. I am prepared to make a full statement this afternoon setting out as best I can the matters that are likely to come up at San Francisco and giving as clearly as possible the point of view of the government. The country would like to know the views of the Leader of the Opposition, the views of my hon. friend the leader of the C.C.F. party on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, the views of my hon. friend the leader of the social credit group and the views of hon. members generally throughout the house,