

conceal the differences that exist or gloss over the potential causes of serious misunderstanding and dispute.

We hear, for example, a great deal of discussion about Russia and the Russian attitude towards the rest of the world. No one who was at San Francisco could fail to recognize the universal good will towards the Soviets and the equally universal desire to establish a firm and lasting friendship with them. These desires, I am convinced, were reciprocated. True, we of the western democracies think in different terms from those who have been raised in the post-revolutionary atmosphere of Soviet Russia. Only through frequent association and discussion can we bring about that understanding upon which the security of Canada and the peace of the world will ultimately depend. My hope is that our war-time and our peace-time associations may make Russia more liberal in her political structure and the western democracies more democratic in their economic activities. Freedom is alike incomplete without freedom of speech in all respects and without economic democracy in the control and management of industry.

The charter provides many opportunities for these associations and discussions. Through its principal organs and the many functional and specialized agencies to be set up in co-ordination with it there will be frequent contacts and intimate associations, and if nothing else were provided, these would be important instruments for the promotion of good will and the preservation of peace. Probably, as the United States Secretary of State said at San Francisco, the most important instrument created there may prove to be the social and economic council.

May I digress to pay tribute to the excellent work done by our own secretariat. I noted that the hon. member for Peel paid a similar tribute the night before last, and I want to commend our secretariat for the manner in which they prepared and made it possible for us to place before the assembly the revised chapter of the Dumbarton Oaks agreement, which formed the basis of the social and economic council as finally adopted. Canada was indeed well served by the permanent civil servants who assembled essential data for us, either in Ottawa before we left, or at the conference, where the work was carried on by those who accompanied us to San Francisco.

Throughout the chapter establishing a social and economic council the charter declares that peaceful and friendly relations throughout the nations must be based on the principle of equal rights and self-determinations of peoples.

[Mr. Coldwell.]

To achieve this, the signatory powers pledged themselves to promote—and here I quote from the document itself:

(a) higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development;

(b) solutions of international economic, social, health and related problems; and international cultural and educational cooperation; and

(c) universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

May I say here that the social and economic committee had the distinction of having as its chairman Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, a gentleman from India, in colour black, but whose colour did not mean that his intellect was not the equal or superior to that of many of the delegates assembled at San Francisco. I noted that when the United States press made an appraisal of the influential personalities at the conference Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar was placed second on the list of those who had made an outstanding contribution there. I think that those of us who were present at that great conference came away fully confirmed in the knowledge that there are no superior races, that regardless of our colour or our language, given the same opportunities men and women of all races and colours may reach the same heights.

As if to emphasize the points I have read from the charter itself, all members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the united nations organization for the achievement of these purposes. To these ends specialized agencies with wide international responsibilities and established by inter-governmental agreements are to be brought into relationship with the organization. One such body may well be the food and agriculture organization approved by this parliament and now assembled in the city of Quebec.

I emphasize all this because, in approving the resolution now before us, we are pledging ourselves to something. We are pledging ourselves, this parliament and this country, to secure and to maintain higher standards of living and full employment in Canada as one contribution to assisting the whole world to achieve these aims. By this chapter of the charter the nations accept the position that starved, exploited and oppressed peoples will not remain permanently peaceful. But the entire charter is a pledge of nations all of whom, of course, retain their sovereign powers. That is to say each signatory retains its own