

Department of Labour what I have in mind about the limitation that I see with respect to her resolution, which suggests one department of the government for the purpose of having primarily as its objective the promotion of peace and international good will. I say that every department of the government should have that objective in view, and that we have already gone much further along that line than is generally conceded.

But may I go a step further? There is another department of the government which, I believe, even more than any I have mentioned, has had specifically in view the promotion of peace and international good will, and that is the Department of External Affairs. That is one of the most recently created departments of the government service. The objective of that department in practically all its work is that very thing—the endeavour to maintain and to further as far as possible friendly international relations and in different ways to promote international understanding. My hon. friend in her remarks this afternoon said she thought it all-important that we should seek to develop an international mind. Here again I am in entire accord with her point of view. I think an international mind is obviously the objective we should have in view in dealing with questions that affect not only our own country but other countries as well. If my hon. friend will look at the report of the Secretary of State for External Affairs she will see there a list of the number of conferences at which Canada has been represented. All these conferences tend to further the objective she has in view. At each one of them Canada's representation has helped to bring to the fore the Canadian point of view, and to contribute towards that ideal of international understanding which her motion seeks to promote. Before going over the list of the conferences, let me mention one that will come first to the minds of every one present. This government and this parliament have identified themselves in a very real and immediate way with the League of Nations. Now, the League of Nations stands for the promotion of the ideal of peace and international understanding. If it does not stand for that it does not stand for anything. Everything we do in connection with the League of Nations we are doing along lines that are promoting the very objective the resolution before the house is intended to promote. For years past Canada has been represented each year at the assembly of the League of Nations; in addition to that a member of the administration of this country has been the president of the league. Canada to-day is represented on the council of the league. So I say to my hon. friend, Canada is doing the very thing that she suggests and that my hon. friend from Winnipeg North Centre suggests should be done by this country, namely, taking the lead in these great matters that make for international understanding. From the part which we have taken in the League of Nations we have certainly set an example to this continent of the desirability of nations sharing in international relations calculated to lead to a better international understanding. Were there a department dealing especially with the promotion of peace and international

understanding, the work of the League of Nations would be referred at once to that department. To-day that work is carried on through the Department of External Affairs. Associated with the League of Nations is the International Labour Conference, another organization which co-operates with the league for the purpose of promoting international understanding on such great questions as standards of working and living conditions and of organization in various branches of national life which tend to place the nations more upon an equal footing and to remove those differences which, in such large measure, are responsible for international friction and international unrest. We have gone wholeheartedly into the work of the International Labour Office as well as into all branches of the work of the league, and this, I submit, is a sign of the development which has taken place in recent years and which should be emphasized when we are discussing the position Canada is taking on these questions.

Let me now refer to some of the conferences that have been held: the International Economic Conference, the Naval Disarmament Conference, the Imperial Educational Conference, the Conference on Communications and Transit, the International Horticultural Congress, the International Conference on Weights and Measures, the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference, the International Radio-Telegraph Conference and the Congress of the International Statistical Institute. I confess that each time the government is asked to send some member or members of the public service or some other representatives to one or other of these conferences the question arises, are we justified in asking parliament to vote the amount required to meet the expense? And how do we justify our action in coming to parliament for the purpose? We justify it on the very ground on which my hon. friend this afternoon supported her resolution, namely, that it is important that this country, in common with other countries, should make its contribution, with respect to matters wherein it may be able to lend aid or provide information which is likely to be helpful. We have therefore, as opportunity has arisen, consciously and deliberately sought to further this means of creating an international spirit within our own country and of making our contributions to international problems as they have presented themselves.

I might mention another direction in which we have endeavoured to promote peace and international understanding. We have undertaken to establish legations in different countries. Last year, as hon. members know, we opened a legation at Washington. We were opposed to a considerable degree in our endeavour to do this; we were told that we were making a mistake; it seemed to be the impression in some quarters that we were pursuing an unwise course. That fortunately was not the view of the House of Commons as a whole. The legation has been opened and has now been in existence for over a year. The house will agree, I think,

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