

and then it goes on to make the regulations as to how the territories are to be administered.

Mr. BELAND: I quite understand that. But the minister has said that only the powers which were to supply troops for the occupation should be parties to this Treaty, and in reply to my inquiry a moment ago he said that Canada would not be called upon to supply any troops there, meaning undoubtedly that Canada would not be a party to the occupation of the territory of the Rhine. The only conclusion we can come to, in view of this explanation by the minister, is that Canada cannot act as a separate member at the Conference.

Mr. DOHERTY: At the present time we are dealing with a Treaty that the British Empire is making, and as I have said, the British Empire, apart from the Crown colonies and so forth, consists of some five self-governing nations. The United Kingdom is not in itself the British Empire; it takes all these nations to make up the Empire. And when the British Empire makes a treaty it is fitting that the whole of the Empire should join in making it. It is proper, it seems to me—at all events that is the view entertained by the authorities of all the component parts of the Empire—that Canada should join with her signature in this Treaty that the British Empire is making so that there may be evidence of the consent of all the nations which, taken together, make up the British Empire. As to whose troops should perform the occupation on behalf of the British Empire, that is purely a matter for arrangement between the different nations of the Empire. In this case the United Kingdom has undertaken to provide for that occupation.

Mr. BELAND: The position of Canada, then, is somewhat different when one comes to consider Canada as a member of the League of Nations.

Mr. DOHERTY: When you come to consider Canada as a member of the League of Nations she is there as one distinct member. The nations generally have recognized that, though there be but one British Empire, there are a number of nations within that Empire, and each of those nations is entitled to be a member of the League of Nations. The fact that a nation also forms part of an Empire does not exclude it from membership in an organization which has nations as its members.

Mr. BELAND: The distinction is mighty fine.

Mr. DOHERTY: The whole Treaty is exceedingly fine.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: I understand that Canada is a party to this agreement because of the fact that the First and Second Divisions of the Canadian troops did occupy parts of the territories of the Rhine for about two months during the early part of this year. I see that Article 6 says:

The German Government shall continue to be responsible for the cost of maintenance of troops of occupation under the conditions fixed by the Treaty.

I understand that the first charge upon the German indemnity is to pay the expenses of maintaining the troops of occupation. As Canada had two divisions in occupation, a certain amount of money must have accrued to Canada as a result. There may be further occupation lasting for some months. When the German Government undertakes to pay the cost of maintenance, does that include the pay of the officers and men composing the divisions, or does it simply cover food and other necessaries? The word "maintenance" there may be entirely inclusive or it may be somewhat exclusive.

Mr. DOHERTY: I understand that that provision covers the entire cost of the occupation. Of course, part of the cost of the occupation is involved in providing the soldiers to do the occupying.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: And that is to be paid out of the first moneys received by way of indemnity, is it not?

Mr. DOHERTY: I understand that to be the provision under the Treaty.

Mr. MCKENZIE: Are there any Canadian soldiers in the Rhine territory now? If so, how long are they likely to remain there?

Mr. DOHERTY: I think I am quite correct in saying that we have no soldiers in the territory of the Rhine at the present time.

Resolution reported and concurred in.

TREATY WITH POLAND.

On motion of Hon. C. J. Doherty (Minister of Justice), the House went into Committee to consider the following proposed resolution, Mr. Boivin in the Chair:

Resolved, That it is expedient that Parliament do approve of the Treaty of Peace between the United States of America, the British Empire,