

Subject.....

Date *Jan 16/24*..... Publication *Montreal Star*.....

PREMIER BRUCE ON AN EMPIRE POLICY

Plain Speaking by Australian at Farewell Dinner

DOMINION VOICE

Obligations and Responsibilities Must Be Shouldered, He Says

LONDON, Jan. 16. — (Canadian Press Cable.) — Premier S. W. Bruce, of the Australian Commonwealth, reserved some plain speaking for his farewell address which was delivered last night at a dinner of the Australian Natives' Association. The Premier profited by the fact that he was being broadcast to deliver a few forceful remarks to Britons whom he accused of an utter lack of imagination in failing to realize the possibilities of the Empire. Mr. Bruce emphasized the view that the Dominions demanded a voice in the Empire's foreign policy, but it was necessary also that the Dominions should shoulder the obligations entailed and contribute to the defence of the Empire. Australia, said the Premier, was fully prepared to shoulder both the responsibilities and the obligation, and he hoped the other Dominions would recognize a similar obligation.

A firm foreign policy, which was necessary, Mr. Bruce declared, would succeed only if a united Empire was behind it. Britain ultimately might be obliged to face the necessity of leaving Europe to its fate and concentrate on the Empire to ensure at least that the Empire would remain sane in a world which appeared to have gone mad. The Empire was as essential to Great Britain as Great Britain was to the Empire.

Premier Bruce pleaded for an all-round disarmament, but he said that for one great nation to strip itself of its powers of defence and the enforcement of its will would result only in encouraging the other Powers to increase their armaments.

LONDON, Jan. 16. — (Canadian Press Cable.) — Senator Wilson, of Australia, who is proceeding to Canada instead of Premier Bruce, to negotiate a trade preference with the Dominion, sails by way of the United States in a fortnight.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers

Memoranda & Notes

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA