

No nation can immunize itself hereafter against these disasters by reliance upon itself alone. The misapplied slogans of yesterday are mere booby traps in the presence of these hard realities. I have no shadow of a doubt that American self-interest requires our co-operation to meet this terror before it flares up again.

I am not suggesting the dissipation of our essential sovereignty in effecting this co-operation. I am not joining in any movement to submerge our independence in a world state. I am talking about co-operation between nations which retain their essential sovereignty. But one of the attributes of sovereignty is to relinquish voluntarily whatever segments can be traded for something more valuable to us. That is all we shall be asked to do if international peace co-operation is launched on the right basis.

I will not dwell any longer on that phase of the discussion. It was very ably covered in the splendid address made a few days ago by the honourable senator from Inkerman.

Will the House allow me a few moments to analyse part of the resolution and the proposals recited in the pamphlet that has been distributed to honourable senators? In the preamble of the motion it is said that Canada is invited to the San Francisco Conference by the Government of the United States of America, on behalf of itself and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of China; and in Chapter II of the proposals, it is provided that:

The organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states.

This is the culmination of the steps which have led Canada from the state of a vanquished colony to that of a sovereign nation, and is worthy of note by those who claim that we are still colonial puppets at the beck and call of England. It is the finest tribute to the greatness of British institutions. As has been stated elsewhere and here Canada's status as a nation has not weakened the link between this country and the other nations of the Commonwealth and the Mother Country. On the contrary that link has been strengthened because it is forged by a common allegiance to our King, and by common ideals of civilization, of liberty and of democratic institutions.

There is another fact worthy of mention. The Security Council, as stated in Section A of Chapter VI, will be composed of eleven members, five of which, namely, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Republic of China, and in due course, France, shall have permanent seats.

What a difference one year has brought: In Bill 84 of last session, an Act for carrying into effect the agreement for United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration between Canada and certain other nations and authorities, Article III, Section 3, says:

The Central Committee of the Council shall consist of the representatives of China, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, with the Director General presiding without vote.

There is no mention of France. But to-day we read that in due course France will have a permanent seat on the Security Council. That great country which has known the horrors of moral and physical slavery has recovered her liberty and will take her rightful place among the Great Powers of the world. To me it is a miracle that this recovery, this liberty, has been the result of the perseverance and heroism of France's one-time enemy, England. What a lesson there is in this for us in Canada, who are the descendants of these two great nations.

It has been feared that by agreeing to accept the decisions of the Security Council Canada might sacrifice some of her sovereignty. Even if this were true, why would not Canada accept what forty other nations are willing to accept in a worthy cause? I entertain no fear of the result.

The same principle that governs individuals also governs nations. A man by entering into a partnership agreement with other individuals does not abandon his liberty; he simply makes use of his liberty to co-ordinate certain of his efforts with those of his partners, thereby increasing his capacity for action. The same is true of a nation. Even a great power like the United States of America cannot stand alone to-day. By freely and willingly joining with other powers for a common cause a nation increases its ability to carry undertakings to success, especially if these undertakings are for the purpose of ensuring world peace.

In his address the other day, the honourable senator for Inkerman (Hon. Mr. Hugesson) clearly demonstrated the reasons for the failure of the League of Nations to justify its existence. Such a body needs not only the authority to judge, but the power to enforce decisions. Experience of the last twenty-five years has shown what was lacking in the League of Nations. We will not fall into the same errors again. There should be no fear on that score.

And now I come to the great controversial issue of commitments. What will be the commitments of Canada? Let us study for a