

It is on these facts that I feel we must criticize, and criticize severely, the present point system by which these men are being brought back. Even at this eleventh hour it should be revised, and some additional bonus, some preference should be granted or some scheme devised—I care not how you work it out—for the benefit of the men who have been in actual combat and to whom the minister referred as having the hardest and longest service. Unless we want to pay more lip-service to that policy some action must be taken in that respect.

A short time ago disciplinary action was taken against an officer who was editing the *Maple Leaf* magazine at the time. But talk to any man who is coming back and he will tell you that those editorials reflect the opinion of the troops who then were actually in Germany or elsewhere on the continent of Europe.

I have confined myself in the main to criticism of the policy. I feel that not sufficient foresight is being used at this time in preparing our future defence forces so that they may assure reasonable and adequate defence of this country in another global war where we might be faced with an enemy equipped with the most scientific developments of this atomic age. We should think twice before we go back to the time-worn policies and time-worn formations which we had before this war.

I appeal that consideration be given to our army of occupation, and that some reasonable scheme of replacing those men who have served in the army of occupation for any extended period should be worked out now. No such scheme was presented to us.

Finally, I say that even now we must revise our repatriation scheme, so that those who have served the longest and fought the hardest may have the advantage of coming back and becoming reestablished in this country, or of taking some of the many courses which are being opened for them, before they find all those opportunities gone.

I have not made any comment on the various items of the establishment because I understand that an opportunity to discuss these in detail will be presented at a later date. I therefore move that the debate on this subject be adjourned.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

Mr. MACKENZIE: In accordance with the announcement of last evening in regard to the business of the house I move that the committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again this day.

Progress reported.

47696—75

UNITED NATIONS

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT SIGNED AT
SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE 26, 1945

Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs) moved:

That it is expedient that the houses of parliament do approve the agreement establishing the united nations and constituting the charter of the united nations and the statute of the international court of justice signed at San Francisco on June 26, 1945, and that this house do approve the same.

He said: On the 26th of June last it was my proud privilege to append my signature, under that of the right hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), to authenticate on behalf of Canada the document agreed upon at San Francisco as the charter of the united nations. That authentication did not automatically make Canada a member of this great international organization because membership in the organization is to be accomplished by compliance with article 3 of the charter, which I should like to read:

The original members of the united nations shall be the states which, having participated in the united nations conference on international organization at San Francisco, or having previously signed the declaration by united nations of January 1, 1942, sign the present charter and ratify it in accordance with Article 110.

Article 110 provides:

1. The present charter shall be ratified by the signatory states in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

2. The ratifications shall be deposited with the government of the United States of America, which shall notify all the signatory states of each deposit, as well as the secretary general of the organization when he has been appointed.

3. The present charter shall come into force upon the deposit of ratifications by the republics of China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, and by a majority of the other signatory states. A protocol of the ratifications deposited shall thereupon be drawn up by the government of the United States of America which shall communicate copies thereof to all the signatory states.

4. The states signatory to the present charter which ratify it after it has come into force, will become the original members of the united nations on the date of the deposit of their respective ratifications.

Nevertheless it was a great privilege to participate, on behalf of the Canadian nation, in making to civilized mankind, of this and of succeeding generations, the noble declaration which constitutes the preamble of the charter. I beg leave to read that preamble into