

powers. Their achievements have been outstanding ones. Australia alone lost more than the United States of America. They (i. e. the British Dominions) have, of course, lost heavily; they are handicapped with enormous debt, but they have at any rate emerged with victory, honor, and a new standing in the world in that they are internationally recognized today. No wonder after what they have done that their great performance all through the war, and especially towards the end of it, the other powers and nations of the world were only too willing to welcome and recognize them within the new great family. It took some time for the position to be realized at Paris because so many of the powers were under the same impression, which, according to the debate in the House that afternoon, appeared to exist in South Africa, viz: that everything seemed to be under the tutelage of the British Parliament and Government. They could not realize the new situation arising, and that the British Empire, instead of being one central government, consisted of a league of free states; free, equal and working together for the great ideals of human government. It was difficult to make people realize this, but afterwards they fully applauded, and their approval was given as embodied in this international document.

And pray do not imagine that this change has been against the desire and in despite of the Old Land. Britain has welcomed our advance at every step, and is as proud of our new status as she is of her own.

All that I have said may be said in two ways—and I have occasionally compared these to the difference in the way in which a daughter who had set up a home of her own might speak of the mother whose home she had left. She might say defiantly, "I would just like to see my mother interfere in my affairs. I would show her where she would land! She would get out quicker than she came in." There is at least one person who calls himself a Canadian and persuades Americans that he is a Canadian—which he is not—who speaks in such defiant and truculent manner of Britain in Canadian affairs but that is not Canadian sentiment.

The other daughter says, "My mother does not and does not want to interfere in my affairs. She knows that