

Hon. Mr. ROSS: But I want to sound just a word of warning. He should be very careful that he does not go too far in complicating us with the fifty-three nations that make up the League of Nations. If he does that, I think we will have to appoint a Committee of this House to watch him when he goes to Europe.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. ROSS: So far the honourable gentleman has exercised so much discretion that I have good hopes for the future. Nevertheless, it is just possible that in assenting to some findings of a Committee of the League of Nations, trouble might be caused in the future. I hope the honourable gentleman will not mind me saying that I hope he will exercise the greatest caution and prudence in this regard.

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND: Honourable gentlemen, I desire to join with my honourable friend in congratulating the Senate upon the accession to its ranks of gentlemen of the importance of those who came in on the opening day. The honourable gentleman from the district of London (Hon. Mr. Little) has been prominent in agriculture and in business, and has been recognized as one of the peers in his own community by being called to sit as president of the Board of Trade of London, and as first magistrate of that city. He will bring to this Chamber a ripe experience in many matters which are of national interest, and we will always listen to him with considerable attention and consideration. Likewise, we have heard the voice of the honourable gentleman from Essex (Hon. Mr. Lacasse) who brings to us youth and enthusiasm. Within a few years he has made his mark in his own district as a leader of his fellow citizens. He has established a reputation for fairmindedness and broad vision in all matters that pertain to bringing together the various races that compose his community. His presence here will be an acquisition to this Chamber.

My honourable friend opposite (Hon. W. B. Ross) did not notice in the Speech from the Throne any indication of considerable constructive legislation to be submitted to this Parliament. It is true that some reference was made to the record of Canada during the past twelve months. I think it was of importance that the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Confederation should be mentioned, and I am sure we should all be proud of the growth of our

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national consciousness as demonstrated by the festivities and the ceremonies that took place in connection with that celebration. I desire to thank my right honourable friend to my right (Right Hon. Mr. Graham) for the weighty part that he assumed in preparing the program for that celebration.

My honourable friend in closing spoke of the League of Nations and of the composition of the Council. He has been kind enough to congratulate me upon occupying a seat in the Council. Whatever pride I may derive from that position, I would like to share it with all my compatriots, because it was not my humble personality that was thrust into that Council, but Canada itself. The seat belongs to Canada, and while it is filled to-day by my humble self, to-morrow it may be filled by some one else. I may say that although Canada came late into the field, I found that her position in the world was recognized as deserving of that honour, and, as I had occasion to say when I returned from Geneva, it was on Canada's good looks and not so much upon the presence of her representatives there, that she secured a seat.

My honourable friend is afraid, if I have rightly caught what was in his mind, that we may be entangled by some of the decisions of the Council through the presence of a Canadian representative. I want to reassure the honourable gentleman and tell him that the presence of a Canadian delegate should rather give Canada a sense of security, because any decision of importance, except on questions of procedure, must be unanimous. If Canada were not there, a decision might be reached which, through Canada's signature to the Covenant, would put upon her shoulders some fairly heavy responsibilities. Canada's representative there may draw attention, for instance, to the fact that if any difficulty were to arise in some part of Europe it would not be opportune to call upon nations across the Atlantic for any contribution. In the draft treaty of mutual assistance which was prepared in 1923, mainly under the direction or influence of Lord Robert Cecil, it was laid down that a country of one continent would not be obliged to transfer troops to another continent for the maintenance of peace. I mention that fact so that my honourable friend may be reassured. There will be no increased responsibility affecting our country by reason of the presence of the Canadian representative. There are fourteen representatives in the Council, and when, on the evening of the day after the election of Canada, a journalist came and asked me: