

perpetual peace. I propose, however, to resist that temptation. It seems to me that in those days we had too many perorations and too little performance.

Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HUGESSEN: To-day the time has come for action. I will conclude by repeating the remarks of the honourable leader on the other side at the termination of his eloquent speech yesterday afternoon, when he referred to the members of the Canadian delegation to the San Francisco conference, and particularly to those who will go from this honourable Chamber. They carry with them not only our best wishes, but our hearts as well. They have a great task and a great opportunity, and, in the words of my honourable friend the leader on the other side (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne), we wish them God speed.

Hon. Mr. DUFF: Hear, hear.

Hon. A. D. McRAE: Honourable senators, I want to congratulate the honourable senator who has just taken his seat (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) on his very able and instructive speech. It has removed certain questions that were in the minds of some of us. Generally, almost entirely, I am in agreement with him. He pretty well expressed my views, except when he forecast the end of all wars. I am not as hopeful as he is. War has not changed humanity very much, and if we may judge from what has happened in the past it has not bettered humanity very much. Nations after all are but collections of individuals, and I fear that following this war, as following the last, our troubles will be many and grievous, and we shall have threats of war and probably war itself unless we have some such organization as is now proposed to maintain international peace and security. I remember that when I came back from the last war we were told there would be peace for ever. At that time I addressed the Canadian Club at Calgary. I said then that war was inevitable because there was no agency to prevent it, and I was criticized severely because, as you know, at that time everyone was optimistic and fully believed there would never be another war. Well, I am just as certain now as I was then that we shall have wars in the future unless we form an organization to stop wars.

To me, the proposals to be considered at the San Francisco conference are very encouraging. I did not anticipate that such progress could be made in the direction of world peace before this war had been brought to a termination. I think the proposed organization is our only chance to avoid future wars. Its effectiveness depends of course on

power; but that is the realistic way of dealing with war. I would be content if the maintenance of peace were left to the three powers, Russia, Great Britain and the United States—

Hon. Mr. DUFF: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: —because they have been active participants in this war, they have unrivalled military, naval and economic strength, and if one of them withdraws from the organization our peace effort ends.

It seems to me we are all talking too hopefully about the Chinese situation. China will not become a nation for another century—at least not a democratic nation. The Chinaman has no conception of nationality at all. His life centres first in his family, then in his community; beyond that the average Chinaman has no interest in the so-called National Government of his country. True, certain factions function as government, but anything like a national democratic government in China will be a development of the future, for the Chinese change slowly. However, I am not very much concerned on that account. I fear we shall have trouble with France, if we may judge from the experience of the fifteen or twenty years following the last war. But so long as Great Britain, the United States and Russia stick together they have ample power to ensure the peace of the world.

Hon. Mr. DUFF: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: I am very hopeful of their ability to prevent aggression. I would say to those who object to one clause or another of these proposals that they have been worked out by men familiar with world conditions and should receive our favourable consideration. Certainly we have to take a chance with them; we have no alternative. Some people would have one subject or another injected into these proposals. I am prepared to take them as they stand. No doubt the conference will make some amendments, but not such as will change materially the broad principles laid down in the charter. I would not have those principles changed, because, as I have said, it is the three great Allied Powers on whom we must rely to maintain the peace of this world.

We wish our delegates God speed. They will carry to the conference the sentiments which have been expressed in this and in the other House. But they will carry more, they will carry with them the hopes not only of the members of the Parliament of Canada but of practically every citizen of this country. I say to the delegates: You have a grave responsibility. No one expects that you will get any particular thing that you may want. You have a give-and-take proposition to