

visions with regard to our withdrawal and the unknown responsibilities and obligations with regard to territorial delimitations which are guaranteed. Can the Minister of Justice or the Minister of Public Works give me, for instance, the territorial delimitations of Hedjaz which we are called upon to guarantee? I doubt it. Yet we are supposed to guarantee the territorial integrity of Hedjaz when we do not know what it is.

Mr. BUREAU: That is why we guarantee it.

Mr. POWER: In my opinion we as a young people just entering upon nationhood should not impetuously endorse something the consequences of which we cannot foresee. I should like to examine the Treaty from another angle. I doubt very much whether those who framed it and signed it have remained true to the high purposes and ideals which should have inspired them. I think not. As I have already pointed out the first accompaniment of the Treaty was a state of war over half the world, and the second result of the Treaty seems to be the aggrandizement of the five principle powers. Great Britain has obtained a large number of the colonial possessions of Germany. She has also obtained the destruction of the German mercantile and naval fleet, and she has been rid for at least half a century of the menace of German trade competition. France obtains Alsace-Lorraine and the Saar Valley and is guaranteed against future German aggression. Italy obtains *Leu Iridenta*; she obtains the mastery of Tripoli and large concessions in Albania. Japan obtains thirty-three millions of unwilling Chinese and a free hand in the East. The United States has her munition debts paid out at usurious interest, and with the loss of less life than any of the other nations which are parties to the Treaty, she screams imperiously that she won the war in six months. True, a certain number of smaller nations of Europe and Asia have obtained autonomy. But, Mr. Speaker, you will note that not one of these nations was situated within the borders of the entente. It was easy to make autonomous nations out of portions of an enemy empire, but it was very difficult, so difficult as to be impossible, to make autonomous nations—

Mr. BURNHAM: Will the hon. member pardon an interruption? If the League of Nations had been in existence prior to 1914 the United States would have been

in the war from the beginning, and the great probability is that there would have been no great war.

Mr. POWER: I am under the impression that the United States would probably have been too proud to fight whether there was a League of Nations or not. I do not know, and I cannot conjecture what the future may have in store. As I was saying, there was autonomy for a certain number of nations belonging to other powers than the Allies. It was easy to give freedom to the Ukrainians, the Serbs, the Czecho-Slovaks, the Slovakians and even to the musically sounding Hedjaz; but it was very difficult, it was impossible, it was a domestic question, to give to the Irish freedom from that bondage against which they never ceased to protest for seven hundred years. Under the League of Nations the Home Rule Bill becomes a scrap of paper, and self-determination a myth. As has been said in the House on many occasions, there may be a hidden hand in this country, but in Ireland there is the bloody hand of Ulster steeped in treason and treachery to the country and Empire and responsible for thousands of persecutions, evictions and outrages.

It was impossible to give self-determination to Ireland although three-quarters of its population had emphatically expressed themselves in favour of it at the polls. The League dare take a plebiscite in Alsace-Lorraine and Schleswig-Holstein but they dare not take a plebiscite in Ireland. The valour of the Irish troops throughout the war, at the landing at Gallipoli, in the Balkan passes and in the wild charges at Monchy and Guillemont, the glorious onslaught at Messines Hill, the gallantry of Irishmen throughout the war—all were forgotten. Forgotten too were the thousands of Irishmen too, in spite of adverse circumstances, enlisted in England and Scotland in both the army and the navy. Forgotten were the thousands who went from this and other countries of the British Empire, and forgotten were the 800,000 Irish members of the American army and navy. As a result Irishmen the world over reluctantly and sorrowfully are driven to the ranks of those who proclaim that England's extremity is Ireland's opportunity, that the leopard has not changed his spots and that there is no more faith to be placed in the rulers of to-day than there was in those days long gone by when the provisions of the Treaty of Limerick were violated before the ink with which it was written had become dry. Ireland has appealed to the sense of justice