

activities have extended throughout Canada? It may be that he cannot answer that definitely.

In seeking information on this matter, I have no thought of embarrassing the government. This is a matter which may have very far-reaching consequences for all Canadians; and I believe that the ends of justice and the interests of Canada will be best served by the government taking the parliament and people of Canada into its confidence, and making the public fully aware of the extent and seriousness of the matters involved. We are anxious not only that the public service be purged of all such subversive influences, but also that we as members of parliament can assure those who sent us here that we are taking effective steps to ensure that there will be no recurrence of these activities in the future. I feel sure that these are matters with which the Prime Minister will deal to-night.

I come now to a matter which the government, in the speech from the throne, indicated was very important. Its words were:

The future of our own and of every country depends upon success in the task of world reconstruction, and the establishment of an enduring peace.

That is a question not of our domestic affairs but of our international affairs. I want for the remainder of my remarks to deal with the question of foreign policy.

We are met here to-day at a critical time in the affairs of a troubled world. The nations are facing one of the great cross-roads of human history. They have no choice but to make solemn and far-reaching decisions. Upon those decisions—the wise charting of our future course—the destiny of mankind very largely depends. I agree with the government when it says that this is an important matter. The alternative paths become clearer day by day. They are clearer now than they have ever been before. We can have peace and progress or we can have anarchy and the reversion to worse conditions than the dark ages. The choice is in our hands to make.

In the first glow of victory of last May, and again in August, when the welcome news came that the war was over, the vision of permanent peace and progress appeared to be realized. Since then, slowly but inexorably, the fearsome knowledge has been borne in upon us that we still have another fight to win: this time a battle for peace, a battle that is quite as urgent, quite as difficult, and in some respects harder to fight than the battle for victory in war. The end of armed hostilities we now recognize as but the com-

mencement of an even more stubborn and relentless battle for peace and progress among men.

I have used the phrase, "the battle for peace and progress." There is no better phrase for what lies ahead. It will be a battle, a great and unceasing struggle against all the forces that have been the cause of war and poverty and pestilence in the world. On the side of right will be ranged the intelligence and sanity bequeathed to us by the accumulated wisdom of generations of mankind, and against us will be ranged all the dark forces which have denied the peace and prosperity and well-being which is the gift of science to this generation if we have but the collective wit to use it.

In war we met German aggression by our own aggression, German destruction by our instruments of destruction. We must now by sanity disarm aggression, substitute production for destruction, and settle our international disputes, not by the blood of our sons but by the force of reason.

In recent months optimism has given place to pessimism. Recurring waves of hope, of cynicism and of fatalism have swept across the world. It has become fashionable to be critical of the united nations organization. It is easy for men of little faith to predict its failure. As for myself, I am not one of those. I believe that a good beginning has been made in the building of a new international order, one which eventually will be strongly based on moral precepts and the rule of law. This new order of diplomacy is suffering growing pains. Plain speaking has replaced drawing-room courtesy. The nations of the world have reached a point of crisis.

It is a time for steady hands, a time for restraint, a time for caution, a time for sanity in both our thinking and our speaking. In these days we must recognize that enduring peace can be founded only upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of all the nations of mankind. Peace based upon political and economic expedients will not survive. The defences of peace must be soundly laid on the basis of free exchange of knowledge and ideas and resources throughout the world and a recognition of the rights of all peoples to govern themselves without dictation from outside.

The united nations organization is the present hope of mankind for world peace. To that organization this parliament has already given its unanimous allegiance. That allegiance we shall never withdraw. The obligations assumed we shall carry out. There are some who fear that this organization may fail.

[Mr. Bracken.]