

government. If we examine carefully all the legislation that has been passed by the government we might ask ourselves what part of it, with the exception of a few social laws, has been really and truly enacted for the benefit of our Canadian people. Everything has been done to favour other nations, under the fallacious pretext that we have to save humanity and civilization.

I should like the Canadian government, before attending this conference, to give Canadian people a thought—instead of always endeavouring to save the world. I should like to see the Canadian government working in favour of the Canadian people's welfare, before going elsewhere to try to save humanity. Everybody admits that Canada is at present going through an internal crisis, and that we are suffering from disunity. All this is due to the present government. Would it not be the first and the most important task of this government to see to it that a true and lasting peace be established in our own country, before trying to organize the peace of the whole world? All right-thinking people are wondering to an even greater extent about what good may come from this conference.

We have witnessed many conferences in the last twenty-five years. We participated in the league of nations, which was supposed to prevent any further wars. We have spent large sums of money as our share for the upkeep of the league, and to cover the travelling expenses of our Canadian representatives in that organization.

Other nations have organized all kinds of peace conferences and all kinds of disarmament conferences. But in spite of these we have been drawn into this terrible war, one which is upsetting the whole world. Now this question arises: What reason have we to believe that the proposed conference at San Francisco will offer any better guarantee or results than did previous ones?

I believe that, not only does this conference fail to offer better expectations but, because of its very organization, it cannot avoid driving the world to anything but another war.

All hon. members know that the conference will be controlled by only the three powers. These are the three powers which at present are fighting alongside each other—but for how long? What would become of the conference if to-morrow one of those three great powers happened to disagree with either of the other two?

If the powers controlling the conference could all be described as democratic powers, we might possibly entertain some hopes; but when we know that the one which, up to now,

[Mr. Dorion.]

has imposed its will upon all the others is a dictatorial power, exactly like those against which we are now fighting, we are not very hopeful nor can we rely very much on the results which may flow from the conference.

Then, when we see that Poland is the country which should have been the first to be asked to participate in the conference, and for whose safety our country was drawn into the war, is not only cast aside but has been broken to pieces in order to please that dictator, who is about not only to control the conference but also to govern all Europe after the war, we have serious cause for concern.

The situation is, I know, a difficult one. In many countries there are people of good will who will endeavour to correct the situation; but in Canada let us not lose all sense of proportion. Let us not try to convince ourselves that we can settle everything—and especially when we know that our international status does not permit us to do so.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, the question that comes up is whether, with feelings as they are now, it is humanly possible that the San Francisco conference may give the results expected from it, and bring a solution to the problems at hand.

If the establishment of peace in the world is eagerly desired, should not a beginning be made by redressing the wrongs suffered by the people within participating nations?

If a satisfactory result is expected, should it not, in the first place, be shown beyond any doubt to the citizens of interested countries that this new organization which it is desired to set up will not be solely in the interests of a group or of certain international influences which have always, so far, caused the wars that have plagued us.

In short, if practical measures were really desired, if there was a wish to bring the people to take a serious view of the discussions of that conference and of the commitments which it is proposed to take, proof should first be given that the governments concerned have as their primary purpose, the elimination of the factors that cause world wars.

No one will deny that the world is seriously ill at the present time. Everyone will recognize that if a permanent cure is to be achieved, it is not sufficient to apply temporary remedies, but it is necessary, first, to eradicate once for all the causes of the illness.

Should we succeed in putting back on its feet a wounded and bruised world, if we allow it to continue living among unhealthy surroundings, amidst the same dangers as those which