

years of war, was brought about under a national government, the split in the country grew the longer the war lasted, and the memory of it caused all political parties to resolve it should not again be resorted to for overseas service. These experiences of World War I naturally influenced the cautious Prime Minister when he saw the second war approaching.

In the League of Nations, as Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, he had backed the policy of mediation, strange to say as late as 1936, the years of Hitler's expansion. As an automatic use of force has proven unsuccessful, all must work to promote friendly cooperation in international affairs, he said in the Geneva Assembly. Here he spoke as a follower of Gladstone and Grey, who, like King, as gentlemen and humanists, could not imagine such barbarous atrocities as we are now witnessing from the German people.

Although this policy was not successful, I believe that King has a greater insight into foreign and world politics than most of his colleagues. An outstanding speech he made in Parliament, May 1938, must be wholeheartedly admired: a section of history displayed to his audience with the talents and knowledge of an historian, practical politician, and deep-thinking scientist. Here he openly derides the people who believe that foreign policies cannot be decided at home, in Canada;