

Mr. GREEN: So much the better. He is a professor of government and jurisprudence at Yale university.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: He was dean of the law faculty of McGill university.

Mr. GREEN: The book was published in 1946 and it would pay hon. members to read it. On page 89 he explains the formation of this council of foreign ministers. He said:

The Berlin conference of the "big three" announced on August 2, 1945, the establishment of a council of the foreign ministers of Britain, the U.S.S.R., China, France and the United States. This body is—

Then he quotes from the announcement that was made.

—"to continue the necessary preparatory work for the peace settlements, and to take up other matters which from time to time may be referred to the council by agreement of the governments participating in the council."

He goes on to point out:

It is specifically laid down that the creation of this council "will be without prejudice to the agreement of the Crimea conference that there should be periodic consultation among the foreign secretaries of the United States, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom."

Apparently there are the two councils, the one with only three members and then the one with which we are concerned tonight which has five members. It should be noted that the work of this larger council is quite outside the work of the united nations. The peace terms have been kept away from the united nations and I think there was a good reason for that being done. They might very well have scuttled the united nations before it got properly sailing. At any rate this larger council has been given the responsibility of making the peace terms.

The council of foreign ministers met at London shortly afterwards, in September, 1945, and almost from the beginning there was trouble. I would refer hon. members to *Hansard* of September 27, 1945, where the hon. member for Peel asked a question about Canada's stand on complaints that had been made by Australia. She had demanded that either the five-power conference of foreign ministers should be expanded to include all countries whose armed forces contributed to victory over tyranny, or else it should be made clear that the conference was merely advisory and only a prelude to a full-scale peace conference. In answering that question, our own Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) said, as reported on page 491 of *Hansard* of September 27, 1945:

The Canadian government, while appreciating the invitation to nominate a representative to

attend the meeting of the council of foreign ministers on September 17 does not desire to avail itself of the opportunity to express its views to the council at present on the question of the Yugoslav-Italian frontier and the future of the city and port of Trieste.

But he went on to say that Canada was concerned with the effect which the peace settlement would have on the general relationship of a democratic Italy to the community of nations. And he expressed the hope that an adequate opportunity would be afforded to Canada and the other united nations which had played an active part in the Italian war to consider and discuss the contents of the peace treaty with Italy as a whole at the appropriate stage in its negotiations.

I would point out to the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton) that the Prime Minister also said that he had given instructions that there be expressed to the Secretary of State for the dominions the gratitude of the Canadian government for the helpful and understanding attitude the United Kingdom government had taken with regard to Canadian interest in the discussions of the council of foreign ministers. This afternoon I thought the Minister of National Defence was not quite fair to Great Britain when he insinuated that she was not helping us out in our present difficulties.

Mr. CLAXTON: There was no such insinuation.

Mr. GREEN: It may not have been meant but it sounded like that on this side of the house.

Mr. CLAXTON: Not the slightest.

Mr. GREEN: I am glad to have the assurance of the Minister of National Defence that that was not his intention.

Canada made no representations about the Italian treaty. The council worked on the treaties with Italy and the other satellite powers until July 29, 1946 when a conference met at Paris. It is important that we know exactly what nations were represented at that conference in Paris. I have the list in my hand. There were five great powers: the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, the United States, China and France, and seventeen others, Australia, Belgium, Byelorussia, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Greece, India, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, the Union of South Africa, Yugoslavia and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Mr. CLAXTON: Sixteen others.

Mr. GREEN: Yes, a total of twenty-one. Apparently the great powers came to that