

cataclysm which the United Nations action in Korea can help to prevent. It may be that in spite of all our efforts the catastrophe of a third world war will overtake us. In that case, let the responsibility for the anguish, devastation and anarchy which it will cause rest on other hands than ours.

What, then, can we do? Is United Nations action in Korea to trickle away into the sands of futility and stalemate? I do not think so. If United Nations forces can continue to throw back the aggressors with heavy losses, and at the same time to avoid any measures which are not absolutely necessary from a military point of view and which might lead to the conflict spreading, the Chinese Government in Peking may decide that it would be folly for them to persist in the destructive course they have begun. We must hope that the day will come when they will realize that it is not China, but Russia, which is being served by the aggression in Korea in which they have participated. Then, they may be ready to enter into discussions leading to a settlement of Korean and other Far Eastern issues, on terms that the United Nations can accept. Meanwhile, the fighting goes on. The courageous men of the United States of America and South Korea still are bearing the brunt of the battle, but they are assisted by contingents from sixteen United Nations countries. In that array, we in Canada are proud to include a Brigade Group of our finest men, all of whom have volunteered to serve the cause of the United Nations and of peace.

Already in its brief history the United Nations has had notable successes in settling international disputes by mediation and conciliation. The Indonesian and the Palestine disputes both held grave possibilities and might have led to widespread conflict if the United Nations had not been patient and persistent in attempting to reach a peaceful settlement. The organization's conciliatory functions are as important as those in organizing collective action against aggression. They will ultimately be required, I believe, if we are to find an honourable and stable conclusion to the war in Korea.

Indeed, settlement of disputes by discussion and compromise must be regarded as one of the basic foundations of the international community. The essential task of politics at all times and in all parts of the world has been to harmonize the interests of different groups of individuals. That task in the international sphere has become both more urgent and more difficult now that the world has been so drastically shrunk by scientific and technological changes. The problem now is not only how men and nations can live in harmony, but how they can live at all if their separate interests cannot be harmonized. We in the West must take the lead in defending the peace against aggressive Communist imperialism. But we must also accommodate ourselves to the fact that our civilization must now be considered as only one of many. We may, for instance, need to show more humility and understanding than we have at times in the past. We should, of course, honour as much as ever the particular traditions which we have inherited. But we must recognize that we now share the world with other independent and, indeed, renaissance civilizations; particularly in the Far East, where nearly one-half of the world's people are now stirring and striving after some of the things which we of the West take so much for granted.

One of the most fruitful bases for co-operation between different civilizations, I think, is a common effort to meet the material needs of those who are now living in poverty and hunger. The causes of war are manifold and sometimes obscure. But it is