

we have been, in substance and in truth, masters of our own destiny. We have become independent, not through revolution but through evolution. Anything that we might lack in the area of national sovereignty and independence is within our capacity to fashion for ourselves.

Domestically, Canada is master of her own destiny. In her foreign relationships, too, she makes her own decisions. The effort of the Canadian people in the late great war was a case in point. It was distinctively Canadian. Her troops in her three services were her own, and nearly half a million people were in uniform. She not only financed a war effort in the three elements but she provided aid in great amounts to some of her needy allies, without, in fact, accepting any foreign financial assistance.

Canada is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and has army and air-force personnel in Northwest Europe, and naval forces available to the Atlantic forces of NATO. Canada is also an active member of the United Nations. She has participated in every peace-keeping operation of the United Nations. To the current undertaking in Cyprus, Canada is making a substantial contribution. Twenty-five per cent of our budget of \$8 billion, or approximately \$2 billion, is devoted to defense, for NATO, United Nations peace-keeping efforts, and our bilateral defence arrangements with the United States.

It has been said that we try to do too much. Perhaps we do. But we believe deeply in the values for which the West stands, and our people remain prepared to help defend this ideal. Perhaps you would agree that Latin America would benefit indirectly from this work.

At home and abroad, if Canada should not continue to develop, "the fault...is not in our stars but in ourselves..." But, like any other peoples in the contracting world, she is dependent upon others for her continued progress. This is especially true in her trading arrangements. As time goes on, this fact must continue to engage the constant attention to her leaders.

But, like Antony, I come here not to praise Caesar. My tribute is to your people in Latin America, not mine.

The total population of Latin American is now more than 200,000,000. This is about the same as the combined population of the United States and Canada. I am informed that the projections to the end of this century indicate that, then, Latin American may have a population of 600,000,000 people, while the populations of North America may not exceed 300,000,000. In itself, this tremendous increase will present problems, not only for Latin America but for the West at large. Great economic growth will undoubtedly result, but social and economic problems will also flow from the increase. In the light of these facts, when the late President Kennedy stated that he regarded Latin America as the most critical areas in the world, he was right.