

## THE COMMONWEALTH - DIVERSITY IN UNITY

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-- and many other areas where the knowledge and practices of Commonwealth law and lawyer-ship could thereby be made available to all.

"I realize that this proposal for the establishment of a Commonwealth Law Institute will need a great deal of study. The present Commonwealth and Empire Law Conference, like its predecessor, meets under *ad hoc* organizational conditions, and there may be no measure which it can evoke from its own temporary resources to create such an Institute.

"I suggest that the bar associations and the law societies of the Commonwealth that have brought into being the first, and now this second Conference, should consider establishing a committee to explore the idea of a Commonwealth Law Institute whose objectives I have briefly outlined.

### VALUE TO NEW MEMBERS

"Surely there would be a great responsibility toward the new and young partners of the Commonwealth to the existence of a centre from which they could draw ideas about legal education, legislation, professional organization, substantive and procedural law developments, judicial organization, legal research and publication, and, not the least, ideas about the patterns of public law and administration that would be relevant to each new local sitting.

"The American Bar Association and the Canadian Bar Association have in recent years both developed very important programmes of research and created permanent institutions for such activities. Would it not be worth while to explore such a programme on a multi-lateral Commonwealth basis, non-governmental in character, but which would invite all Commonwealth countries to consider how best they could express their interest and support in such a venture? The lawyer in a free society is at the very centre of political and social development.

"Would not the formation of a Commonwealth Law Institute give strength to the Commonwealth partnership, and at the same time provide for professional, technical and institutional needs for the new members, who must learn quickly in a few years what it took the older members of the Commonwealth so long to learn?

### WORLD RESPONSIBILITY

"To conclude, the manner in which the world-wide Commonwealth functions will be only as important as its own world-wide function. A new, high mission has fallen to the Commonwealth -- and I think we would do well to ponder its significance afresh.

"It is often said that the Commonwealth is a bridge between the powers of the Occident

and the powers of the Orient. Why is it more crucial than ever before that the Commonwealth so function?

"Since World War II, the West has been intent upon building up its defences against Russian and Chinese expansion. At the same time a gulf has yawned between the economies of developed and under-developed countries. The more-developed economies have, moreover, belonged to the white race; the less-developed ones, to non-white races. Newly-independent peoples have leapt ahead in rank and status. However, some of them lag industrially, politically and administratively, and thus labour under cruel economic handicaps.

"More will have to be done by the West in a number of directions. No genuine challenge to altruism, aid and assistance, should go without a response.

"What must be averted are racial grievances that identify economic opportunity with blessings the white race enjoys, and economic deprivation with trials that non-white peoples endure. There is nothing selfish about aid and assistance programmes which try to do that.

"It is fascinating to watch as a love-hate drama unfolds between the two main proponents of Communist doctrine. Russia and China quarrel between themselves; their campaign against the West and among under-developed peoples goes on unabated.

"A free world is still the prerequisite of the good life.

"The West does not benefit alone when it exerts itself to preserve that free world. But among factors that uphold the free world is a Commonwealth which links together powers of the Orient and powers of the Occident in a special bond. And, if the roots of its unity were to wither and die, civilization itself would suffer.

"During the first half of the twentieth century, when civilized society was menaced by conflict, the Commonwealth proved, in a disordered world, to be a mainstay of order. During the second half of the twentieth century, a mainstay of order it remains.

"Our common heritage and history, and the world challenge to freedom, call on the countries of the Commonwealth to practice principles of the Rule of Law which are synonymous with equality, without regard to race, colour, sex or religion."

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## RARE BISON IN NATIONAL PARK

A northern buffalo hunt - in the interests of science, not sport - has confirmed a rare big-game find in Wood Buffalo National Park.

A small herd of wood bison has been discovered in the remote Nyarling River area far removed from the big main herds of plains buffalo and hybrids that roam the ranges of the Lake Claire Flats and Salt Plains. The park is immense - 17,300 square miles of

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