

Our distinction, among those smaller powers, is that we are North American. We are very close to you in so many ways, closer to you than any other country.

There are bound to be these differences between us, arising primarily from the contrasts of size and power and responsibilities; but we do not have to allow those differences to divide us. On the contrary, the objective we can and should set for ourselves is to make the differences work for us, to the benefit of both our countries and of international relations generally.

### Making Differences Work

By making the differences work for us, I mean that we can complement each other's policies and ideas. I mean that, on the foundation of our own close partnership, there are ways of some importance in which Canada can assist in the broader partnership of both our countries with others - with the North Atlantic Community, with the members of the Commonwealth, with the new and developing nations in the world. Our very lack of power makes possible for us a certain measure of ease and flexibility in international relations that is not possible for the giants. You cannot sneeze without other countries thinking they are getting a cold and feeling inclined to blame it on you. We can sneeze with impunity.

We have much in common with the smaller nations of Europe; and our own political and economic development is recent enough for us to have considerable sympathy with the problems of the newer nations.

I am bold enough to believe that these circumstances give to our partnership with you a special value. It is more than a partnership of direct mutual benefit. It is more than an example of a good relation between two nations. It is also a partnership in which, if we work wisely together, we can do a more constructive job in international relations than either you, as the big power, or we, as a smaller power, could do if there were no such partnership, for if history had created in the northern part of this continent one nation instead of two. Because there are two nations, I believe that we are creating more vigorous and more satisfying communities than could ever have been produced within one framework.

That is part of the challenge that faces my country. I hope that, in talking about it, I have said something of more general value to the people to whom I am primarily speaking - to the graduating class of 1963 at Notre Dame and to the members of the faculty who have worked with the class to make this great day possible. As a Canadian, I admire the great work your forefathers have done to shape this nation and make it a mighty force for freedom, progress and peace in the world. Your generation will soon be carrying on that work. It is a more difficult