

It is necessary, indeed urgent, that we should make the sacrifices that are indispensable to our liberty and that of the nations which are saying no to Communism. It is also urgent that we co-operate in raising the standard of living of less favoured nations. But besides the reasons of practical interest that we have for doing so, there exist certain higher reasons which are too often unheeded or unknown.

Are we sufficiently conscious of the true meaning of our daily prayer "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"? We know what His will is for our conduct on earth; it was revealed to us by the founder of Christianity Himself in His conversation with the young Jewish lawyer: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." And we know, from the rest of the conversation, the parable of the good Samaritan, the man of a race scorned and spurned by the Jews, whom one must recognize as one's neighbour on earth.

It is not one of the tasks of the universities to shed light upon that moral and Christian aspect of our political action and to explain its meaning and its universal and Christian value?

My colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, recalled very rightly this moral basis of the present policy of the Western nations when, speaking last June in the House of Commons about European unification, he said that "beyond the community of interests in military and economic matters there are amongst these free European states a common culture and common traditions which cannot be overlooked by a group of nations for which individual and moral values are at least as important as material ones."

In concluding this address, I should like, as Prime Minister of this country, to express gratitude to all the official and university delegates from abroad that are here this evening for the honour which they do us in taking part in this celebration of Laval's centenary. I wish especially to extend to the President of the French Republic, through His Excellency the French Ambassador who is his delegate here, the greetings of the Government and people of Canada. Laval is an institution of French origin, and how could France offer us a gift more worthy of her civilization than such a university. To all the other foreign delegations, I express my compliments and thanks.

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