

2. Political Liberty:

We value political freedom as something beyond price. So we are conscious of the danger to our own political institutions when freedom is attacked in other parts of the world. From our democratic inheritance, and from our own experience, we have come as people to dislike and distrust governments which rule by force and suppress freedom. We seek - and find - our friends among those of like political traditions. And we recognize that a threat to the liberty of peoples elsewhere is a threat to our liberties at home.

3. The Rule of Law in National and International Affairs:

Respect for the rule of law, both in our own country, and in the relations we wish to see established between the states of the international community, is for us a cardinal principle. This is one of the elements in our national attitude towards totalitarian countries - whether of left or right - where the government sets itself above the law. It also explains the support we give to strengthening the procedures of law and justice in the international community.

4. The Importance of Moral Values:

In our national life and in our participation in world affairs, we are deeply conscious of the moral values which we have inherited from older civilizations. This is the basis of the emphasis which we give to the importance of the individual personality in the conduct of human relations.

5. Acceptance of responsibility in keeping with our conception of our role in world affairs:

Our experience has shown us that our security depends upon the development of a successfully functioning international organization. So we are prepared to play our full part in associations and organizations which serve the world, within our capacities and our resources.

These are the principles which influence, and largely determine our point of view on world affairs. Our experience in two world wars - and their aftermath - has confirmed our belief in their validity.

In August 1914, Canada was a young country on the eve of great developments, with a population only half of what it is today. After four years of what was called the First Great War, 60,000 of our youth were left on the battlefields of France and of Flanders. That experience remains an abiding memory, but at first we did not draw the right conclusions from it.

After the first war, many of us pinned our hopes for peace on the newly-founded League of Nations, without showing any great zeal in taking measures necessary to realize these hopes. Governments - including the Canadian Government - were not prepared to use collective force to deter aggression at the point when and where it might have been stopped. So, by September 1939 there was no way to stop Hitler's Germany short of a total war based on old conceptions of national defence and improvised national alliances.

In the six years of total war which followed - in that war for which we did not find a name - merely a number - 42,000 Canadians lost their lives. The monetary cost to Canada's 12 million people was in the neighbourhood of 20 billion dollars.