

organize so as to confront the forces of communist expansionism with an overwhelming preponderance of moral, economic and military force and with a sufficient degree of unity to ensure that this preponderance of force is so used that the free nations cannot be defeated one by one. No measure less than this will do. We must at all costs avoid the fatal repetition of the history of the pre-war years when the Nazi aggressor picked off its victims one by one. Such a process does not end at the Atlantic."

He went on to say that he was sure that it was the desire of the people of Canada that Canada should play its full part in creating and maintaining this overwhelming preponderance of moral, economic and military force and the necessary unity for its effective use.

Proposals to the same effect are being heard in other countries. There is pending before the Senate of the United States a resolution unanimously reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations, which, among other things, advocates the development of regional and other collective arrangements under these Articles of the Charter and the association of the United States with such arrangements.

I should be very loath to see action taken by any of the democratic powers which would have the effect of wrecking the United Nations as a universal organization by bringing about the withdrawal of any important group of its members. It is true that many of the proceedings in the Security Council or in the Assembly are reminiscent of words used by a character in Webster's play, The Duchess of Malfi: "Think of the crab, who, though it walks backwards, thinks it is going forwards because it is going its own way". It is at times even difficult to detect movement in any direction! The filing cabinets at Lake Success are too often used as refrigerators for good ideas, such as the scheme for the international control of atomic energy, which was developed by the United Nations Commission, on the basis of the American proposals, and is now laid away in the hope of better days, because of the opposition of the representatives of the Soviet Union and the Ukrainian Soviet Republic.

Despite all this frustration, by all means let the United Nations be kept alive, but let it not become an obstacle to collaboration between like-minded countries. I hope, therefore, that the free nations of the western world will soon band themselves together and promise each other mutual support against armed attack. The Preamble to the Charter pledges the nations "to practise tolerance and live together at peace with one another as good neighbours, and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure.....that armed force shall not be used save in the common interest". Those members of the United Nations who wish to honour these pledges can fulfil the spirit of the Charter and abide by its letter through joining together in pacts for mutual defence and other worthy purposes.

What I have said about the international scene is not irrelevant to the question which I put at the beginning: Is this a good age in which to have been born? I expect that we can all agree that it is an exciting age, a dangerous age, a terribly complicated age. Perhaps we had better leave it at that. The stupendous achievements of the scientists and the technicians are breaking up the traditional patterns of thought and action. Old institutions, old beliefs, old ways of life, are under a severe strain. I often wonder whether our knowledge has not far outrun our wisdom.

In this college devoted to the study of the liberal arts it is appropriate to emphasize the urgent importance of the humanities in this age of technology. Put in homely terms, the central conception of democracy is that nobody has the right to push anyone else around unless it has been established that it is for the good of society. Our complex

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