

Address by the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Canada, Canadian Legion Remembrance
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In this evening's programme, the Canadian Legion is desirous that our thoughts should be centred upon International Fellowship and Peace.

How to bring about International Fellowship and Peace in a world which is witnessing actual war on two continents is not easy to determine. It is, nevertheless, the problem with which nations are faced today. A true perception of the nature of Peace, may help somewhat towards a solution.

When we say we want Peace; that we are ready to support any and every peace policy, we would do well to remember that Peace itself is not a policy. A policy is a means to an end. Peace is not a means, it is an end. It is a condition or state of being which results from the application of policies founded upon right principles. What right conduct is to the peace of heart and mind of the individual, the application of policies founded upon right principles is to National and International Peace.

The issue today is much larger than that of any particular conflict. It clearly is whether, in the solution of world problems, our main reliance is to be placed upon Force or upon Reason. International Fellowship and Peace may be promoted by peaceful means; they will never be secured by reliance upon Force. "Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" Justice, not Force, is the telling instrument. It may sometimes be, that there appears no immediate alternative to Force. The fact remains that war, under whatever label, or with whatever purpose it is waged, cannot bring a lasting and effective peace, or achieve good-will among peoples. Where Force is the means, it tends to dominate, and become the end as well.

Let us not forget that the entire world is in a state of transition: that, even in countries where those in control place their reliance mainly on Force, there are multitudes of peace-loving people ready and anxious to join their numbers to those of other lands who are seeking to promote International Fellowship and Peace. They should not be over-looked, much less indiscriminately condemned.