

for all. As modern science and technology have drawn the different parts of the globe more closely together, a far-reaching change in outlook has been taking place. To an extent which might have seemed inconceivable even fifty years ago, there has now come increasing recognition that the hundreds of millions of people throughout the world today must somehow contrive to share among themselves less unevenly the ability to use the resources of the earth; that the general impoverishment of any area is a matter of concern to all areas; and that the technical experience and knowledge acquired in rapidly changing industrialized societies have somehow, through our collective efforts, to be made available to those communities that are less advanced and less well equipped.

Arnold Toynbee has suggested that "the Twentieth Century will be chiefly remembered by future generations not as an era of political conflicts or technical inventions, but as an age in which human society dared to think of the welfare of the whole human race as a practical objective". This is an exciting idea. If governments and peoples can accept this possibility, this challenge; if they can recognize in time the interests not merely of their own communities but of the world in which these communities exist; if they can pool their common efforts through self-help and co-operative action to further the advance of all peoples everywhere, then, and only then, will we be able to look forward to a time when peace and security and progress will be something more than mere words.

For in such accomplishment, in such achievement, in such recognition of the mutual interdependence of our world society, in such fulfilment of our obligations of self-help and co-operative action to promote our common betterment, we will give new life and meaning to the inspiring words which are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and will demonstrate our firm resolve "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom".

The conversion of these words into reality is the supreme challenge of our times.

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