

*External Affairs*

(Mr. Pearson) and by the Prime Minister, I think it is not unfair to say that the statement made by the Prime Minister in disavowing the interpretation put on his statement in the Far East has taken much of the interest out of this debate. One may say also that as to much of the statement that was made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, one had the feeling that it was directed largely at Washington.

I must confess to not a little surprise and considerable regret that the Prime Minister, having now addressed the house twice on the subject of his tour of the world, including many of the important nations of the commonwealth, said not one word about the vital and beneficent role that the commonwealth is playing in the struggle for world peace today. Not one word was said on that subject. I must say that I for one was startled by that fact.

To what goal does Canada direct her external policy? Obviously, Mr. Speaker, if we are to give the answer in a word, that answer must be "peace". The goal is peace in a world which this very week has read of the explosion of a hydrogen bomb six hundred times more powerful than that bomb which claimed 60,000 lives when dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. Consequently in pursuing the goal of peace we must be realists.

There are three statements that the Prime Minister has made in various places in relatively recent times which I think are worthy of the attention of the house. In speaking at Midland on August 29, 1952, he said this:

... whenever there is a big war, we cannot keep out. We are inevitably drawn into it. Consequently, we must do everything we can to keep peace in the world.

Then, on his tour he was reported from Rome on February 13 as saying:

If we really want peace we must be prepared to undertake war to protect it.

On the same tour at Soest, Germany, he is reported as saying on February 11:

"No potential aggressor must feel it healthy to start aggression", the Prime Minister said in a brief speech. "During my lifetime we have had too much war. We have learned that the only way to avoid war is to be prepared to wage it."

These indeed are strong statements made by the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, but I do suggest that, if logically and sensibly interpreted and applied, there is realism in them.

In what I have to say tonight I should like to direct my remarks to four subjects: first, our relations with the United States; second, some aspects of our external relations so far as Europe is concerned; third, the same as far as Asia is concerned, and fourth, the subject of trade.

Our relations with the United States are of first importance. There are three matters in this regard on which I should like to dwell briefly. The first thing, I think, that we wish to make abundantly clear both to our American cousins and to the world, for it is just as important that the world should understand this as that our cousins south of the border should, is that Canada's foreign policy will be made right here under this roof. There were long years when the world did not understand, for instance, that Canada's foreign policy was not made at London but was made here. Now we seem to be in danger of having the world or at least some parts of the world think that our foreign policy is made at Washington. Sir, we must be very firm on this subject, and we must tell the United States and the world firmly and clearly that if there is to be any thought of committing this country in advance to any policies that call for collective support with Canada as a participant we must first be consulted and Canada must determine her course.

The second aspect of this matter is the way in which Canada seems to be coming into the role of interpreter of the United States in those quarters of the globe where the United States and her policy are not well understood. Indeed, the Prime Minister in at least a part of his tour, particularly in his visit to India, seems to have accepted the role of interpreter of the United States to that sister nation of the commonwealth. There is every reason why Canada, in the interests of world peace, should seek from her advantageous situation to assist the world in understanding the United States and her peaceful aims. Above all nations in the world we Canadians best know the United States. We know her generosity. We have had reason to admire her leadership in the world. When we look back and think how much the world suffered in earlier times for lack of United States leadership and how the whole course of history in the years leading up to 1939 might have been changed had the United States then been giving the leadership to the world she is giving today, we have a means of estimating the value of United States leadership to the world.

It is a fact that the United States is not popular in many quarters of the globe, even in quarters where United States aid has been most generously bestowed. In the days when Britain held the position of the world's most powerful nation there seemed to be a disposition to twist the lion's tail occasionally, and that now seems to be directed at the United States. It may be that mistakes are made at Washington. After all, this role