

107. By urging practices and policies of this nature the Canadian Government has made a considerable effort in the direction of trying to make the internal organization of the United Nations operate with maximum efficiency. This is in accordance with the statement by Mr. St. Laurent on April 29, 1948, quoted earlier, concerning Canada's determination to utilize the present possibilities of the United Nations "to the fullest extent".

VI. CONCLUSION

108. This has been an outline of the general policy of the Canadian Government towards the United Nations with illustrations of how this policy has been practised in regard to specific issues. Now certain basic principles might be mentioned which govern Canada's policy in external affairs and which reflect themselves in the Canadian participation in the United Nations.

109. In the first place, Canada is forced, of course, to recognize the limitations imposed upon a secondary power. To quote again from the Gray lecture delivered by the former Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs in Toronto on January 13, 1947: "No society of nations can prosper if it does not have the support of those who hold a major share of the world's military and economic power. There is little point in a country of our stature recommending international action if those who must carry the major burden of whatever action is taken are not in sympathy." Although Canada must realistically recognize that its role in the United Nations is not a paramount one, it would be even less realistic to pretend that Canada has no influence. Canada has both the capacity and independence to press vigorously for the principles in which Canadians believe. Nor will Canada be casually dismissed. This has already been proven many times, as this outline has endeavoured to show.

110. Secondly, Canada's Government, like all democratic governments, must so frame its policy that it achieves general support from all sections of its people and not merely from special groups or interests. To quote once more from the Gray lecture: "A policy of world affairs, to be truly effective, must have its foundations laid upon general principles which have been tested in the life of the nation and which have secured the broad support of large groups of the population No policy can be regarded as wise which divides the people whose effort and resources must put it into effect". National unity must, therefore, be a major concern of Canada's external policy - again as in the case of all other democratic states.

111. The third principle which has been reflected in Canadian policy is the Canadian conception of political liberty. Canadians are all conscious of the danger to their own political institutions when freedom is attacked in other parts of the world. Consistently they have sought and found their friends among those of similar political traditions of liberty. This concern with political freedom leads inevitably to another fundamental principle of Canada's external policy - the rule of law in international affairs. In the Canadian political system the supremacy of law is so familiar that Canadians are in danger of taking it for granted. Internationally, Canada has in recent times witnessed a degree of lawlessness perhaps never equalled before. Yet, if Canadians really believe in the principles of their own society, they must be governed by these principles in their international relations. If their experience tells them that the only healthy society is one in which