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Mr. St. Laurent's Toronto Address: Following are extracts from the address delivered by Right Honourable L.S. St. Laurent, Secretary of State for External Affairs, before the Canadian Club of Toronto, November 3, 1947:

"....Canada has taken the position that the abuse of the veto power might well destroy the United Nations because it destroys all confidence in the ability of the Security Council to act effectively and to act in time.

"When I stated that position on behalf of the Canadian Delegation before the General Assembly, I added that our peoples could not be expected to accept indefinitely and without alteration voting procedures and practices which in the name of unanimity underlined disunity and which in the quest for agreement on action more often than not resulted only in inaction.

"I also added that nations in their search for peace and co-operation might, if they were forced to do so, attempt to achieve their goal otherwise than through a council frozen in futility and divided by dissensions. The solution adopted for the Greek border difficulty and the establishment of a continuing committee of the Assembly may be one such way and may also serve to convince our Russian friends that the Charter can be made to work even over and in spite of their objections.

"Should they come to that conclusion, - and they must if they stay in and I think they will - they are apt to modify their attitude in the Security Council. Coming to the conclusion that decisions can be made and implemented without their concurrence, they may prefer to have the controversies discussed and dealt with in the Security Council where they are one of five permanent members and one of the total membership of eleven, rather than see them go to a committee of the Assembly where they are only one of 57 members.

"It is with such hopes for improvements that the Department of External Affairs faces its task of providing Canadian representation on the Security Council to which we were elected by an overwhelming majority three weeks ago....

"....We, in this country have built a nation which is as wide as the continent and which is based on the consent of many diversified groups. Is it unreasonable to hope that our own experience and the experience of other peoples who have built political organizations over wide areas can be repeated amongst the nations?"

"What we want in this country, is to maintain our own freedom and to leave other people in the enjoyment of theirs.

"We know our neighbours to the South of us pretty well and in spite of all these wild charges of imperialism brought against them, we are convinced that they also wish to maintain their freedom and like ourselves wish to leave other people in the full enjoyment of theirs.

"We feel, however, that isolation is no longer possible even if it could be regarded as desirable, and that the greatest hope for our own survival and for the survival of other national units of free people lies in the development of efficient machinery for internal co-operation, such machinery as will make sure that certain principles are recognized as binding in the international field and that any violation of these principles will be repressed and punished as surely and as relentlessly as law breaking is repressed and punished within a state...."