

the world. But I also said that we dared to feel that through constant work and faith we were developing something which some day might not unworthily be compared with their accomplishments.

I think that one of the Canadian traits which can be compared to some extent with those of the Far East is our broad tolerance and our desire to understand our fellow men. The Asian peoples have lived beside one another for thousands of years and most of them have learned that no lasting solution to problems is ever arrived at by brutishness, arrogance and intolerance. They have learned to reflect on the real problems of life and to attain a deeper insight into them.

Some of you will have heard the outstanding lectures given recently at McGill University by the Vice-President of India, Dr. Radhakrishnan. Dr. Radhakrishnan is that happy combination of an eminent and capable statesman and a great scholar. Even if we knew nothing further of the Indian people we could not help but find encouragement and inspiration and a warm feeling of friendship for a nation that can produce a man of such great talent and call him to a post of such high responsibility.

We Canadians can benefit greatly from these contacts with peoples whose way of life is different from our own. It is not only in keeping with our international obligations but also with our national interests to encourage the exchange of ideas with our friends beyond our borders. This sharing of knowledge and the mutual respect and confidence thus engendered will help us all to find practical solutions for the many problems with which we are faced.

Here in Canada it is this attitude of cooperation and understanding between our two principal races and the others who have come to join us that is the key-stone of Canadian unity. This is the characteristic which has been spoken of as tolerance. In my opinion tolerance is more than mere acceptance of a situation or of circumstances as being beyond our control. The word has a much more positive meaning. Surely it is the genuine recognition of and respect for the rights of others different from ourselves, recognition of their inherent dignity and appreciation of the intrinsic value of their own principles and ideals.

That historic decision in the eighteenth century which gave our two races the inalienable right to live as free men in this part of the North American continent was of vital importance for all of us.

The French settlers who decided to remain here instead of returning to France accepted the guarantees which were offered; they felt they could survive as a distinct cultural community and live useful and worthwhile lives alongside of others on this continent. I for one, and I am sure that the vast majority of their descendants would agree with me, am convinced that that decision was the right one for them to make. And I have no fears about our survival.