

tinguished citizens, such as the late Syngman Rhee, who was President of the Republic of Korea for three terms until 1960.

There is only one foreigner buried in that cemetery, and I am proud to say that he is a Canadian. He was the late Dr. Frank W. Schofield, a missionary from Guelph, Ontario, who devoted many years of his life to Korea. He was a specialist in preventive medicine, served on the staff of the Seoul National University, and died a year or two ago at a ripe old age. He is not perhaps quite as legendary in Korea as Dr. Norman Bethune is to the people of the People's Republic of China, but he is perhaps the Canadian best known to Koreans. It is a real tribute to Dr. Schofield that the Government of Korea sought to have him buried in the National Cemetery of Korea, and I was fortunate to be able to do honour to his memory by placing a wreath on his grave. He is recognized as a national hero of that country.

Even if my attempts to visit farther points in Korea were aborted by the rains, I was fortunate to have seen at least a little of the life outside of Seoul. Seoul, which after the Second World War was a city of perhaps a million people, has now grown to four or five million. With its industries, high rise buildings and luxury hotels, to see Seoul is perhaps no more to know Korea than to see Montreal is to know Canada. The gross national product of Korea has increased at an average rate of almost 10 per cent annually in real terms from 1962 to 1970, attaining a level in American dollars of some 8.4 billions in 1970. Over 60 per cent of its exports are now in manufactured goods. This represents a real development of the urban sector, but at the expense of a growth in disparities and wealth between the urban and rural areas.

The Korean Government is well aware that its successes to this point have been concentrated in the great cities like Seoul and, more recently, in Pusan and other centres. In his inaugural speech the President of Korea said that in the years ahead he wished to place, and I quote:

...Korea in the upper ranks of the intermediate advanced countries by modernizing the nation's agricultural and fishing communities.

Korea is approaching the point of economic self-sufficiency, but its future development will have to be carefully regulated, as President Park well knows. Unemployment, population pressures, low domestic savings and inflation remain as economic problems. The country continues to run a large trade deficit which in 1970 was of the magnitude of \$1.1 billion.

Hard work, entrepreneurial skill and good training have contributed to the sense of pride and self-confidence one encounters in visiting Korea. The President forecast in his inaugural address that by the mid-1970s Korea would have become strong enough to achieve unification. Whether this may prove possible of fulfilment I do not know, but it is certainly not the product of defeatism. The Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, with whom I held some very useful discussions, was as impressed as I was by the Koreans' ability and reliability.

He anticipated that countries like Korea and Thailand would increasingly stand on their own feet economically and politically.

No one who knows Asia well can help but be vitally impressed with the economic power of Japan, of Thailand, of Taiwan and of the great potential of a country like Korea. There are other Asian nations I could mention. For a country like Canada, a Pacific country, this has great meaning for the future.

I did not detect when I was in Korea any particular turning towards the People's Republic of China. I found, of course, a great deal of interest in Canadian policy in that respect. The Korean Government was, nevertheless, keenly aware of the direction of international trends. There are three sentences in the President's speech which I should like to read to the Senate. He said:

With this foundation, the time has come for us actively to participate in the channeling of the new international currents of the will to peace. It is within these currents that we must seek ways to achieve our national goals. A great change is taking place around us, as indicated by the rise of a so-called mood of thaw between east and west, and the initiation of efforts for rapprochement between the United States and Communist China.

Whatever those words were intended to mean, they are there for interpretation. I look upon them as significant words, coming from the President of Korea. That speech was not only the first occasion on which the Government of Korea spoke positively about the People's Republic of China, but it is in itself an affirmative statement. The President not merely took note of the rapprochement between the United States and China, but indicated that it was in this direction that Korea would be seeking ways to achieve its own national goals. This speech, I may remind honourable senators, was delivered a fortnight before President Nixon's announcement that he intended to visit Peking.

Neither Canada nor Korea is in a position to control the development of international relations in the Far East, but both countries have been alert to discover what role China would play, and to assist that role to be as constructive and stable as possible.

Canada and Korea have also been concerned to maintain the steady expansion of their bilateral trade. Korea's international trade has been expanding at an even faster rate than its gross national product, and Canada's role in that trade has steadily mounted. As recently as 1965 Korea ranked 116th of our 138 trading partners. By 1968 Canada ranked as the 13th most important nation from which Korea was importing. By 1970 total trade between the two countries was 20 times the inauspicious level of 1965.

There is plentiful evidence of the importance the Canadian Government attaches to our Far Eastern relations. Our trading figures with that region afford convincing testimony of the growing relationship. In 1953, the year before Japan's accession to the GATT and the signing of the Canada-Japan trade agreement, bilateral