

Canada has been keenly aware of the significance of India's rôle in the Commonwealth and played a leading part in furthering India's continued association with it. It has attempted, more cautiously, to promote better relations between India and Pakistan.

6. Canadian policy in Western Europe has been far more dependent upon the United States, especially since the Truman doctrine, than in pre-1939 days. Western Europe has been considered as the first line of defence for all free countries and Canada has treated it accordingly in its NATO policy. In doing so, it prefers to be regarded by Western Europe as a North American power rather than as a Commonwealth country; of this fact its negotiations with the Council of Europe offer an illustration. The Government has been willing to consider closer co-operation of the United Kingdom with Western Europe than any other part of the Commonwealth, including the United Kingdom. It has favoured a policy of selective integration for Western Europe, expressed most definitely in its approval of the Schuman Plan. On occasion, when they impinged upon NATO, Canada has taken some initiative in European matters, as in General Vanier's interview with Mr. Schumann in November, 1950, when France was urged to realize the importance of the United States' position on the re-armament of Western Germany; in advising the United Kingdom Government of the anxieties of France about the British attitude towards the European Army as revealed by President Auriol to Mr. Pearson in December, 1951; and in urging Mr. Stikker, the Netherlands Foreign Minister, to be less suspicious of the implications of a European Army in January, 1952. Such actions have tended to increase our moral commitment to the closest possible association with Western Europe in defence policies. On the other hand, Canada has tried to avoid assuming too direct a rôle in Western European policies, as our attitude on Trieste (except at the time of the Italian election) and Spain indicated. Canadian policy towards Germany has reflected a greater suspicion of that country than in the United States, and also a more sympathetic appreciation of the point of view of France and the Low Countries. It has shifted from opposition to the re-militarization of Germany, which persisted until the summer of 1950, to acquiescence in the re-arming of Western Germany within the EDC and NATO on the ground that this offered "the best choice of risks to take". It is gloomily aware of the explosive nature of the German problem.

7. Canadian policy in the Far East has lacked a coherent pattern. It displayed a show of interest in the future of a democratic China in the early post-war years which quickly gave way to an increasing lack of confidence in the policies of Nationalist China. It has tended to regard the Far East chiefly in terms of the increased international tension between the United States and the Soviet Union and therefore at times to support, as in the Far Eastern Committee, U.S. policies of doubtful wisdom. It has also reflected, increasingly since 1949, an appreciation of the rôle of India in Asia which has not to date been correspondingly felt by the United States.

8. In the field of international economic and financial policy this Department has had the least influence. It had, for example, the greatest difficulty in securing Cabinet approval for assistance to under-developed countries