

I hope, Mr. Chairman, that, from this general account of problems with which Canada has to deal, I have been able to provide some insight into Canadian attitudes and the Canadian approach. I should like to add only this. In my office and in my Department, we are, first of all, students of international law. We try to understand what are the applicable rules and what are the practices of states. Second, we are practitioners seeking to find solutions to international problems through applying the existing rules and precedents. Third, we are our own advocates. We argue our own cases in various informal ways. Fourth, we are often our own judges. We examine the rules to find to what extent they are equitable and fair and to what extent, in our view, there is a need for change and progressive development. We examine the other side's case and we may accept or reject it. Fifth, we are legislators in the various bodies of the United Nations, raising our voice and casting our votes in favour of rules which we believe to be just.

In short, as Secretary of State for External Affairs, I see international law in many perspectives and from many standpoints. I live with it every day. Of Sir Frederick Pollock it was once said that the law was his mistress. Of myself it would be sufficient to say, international law is my constant companion.

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