

As Western Union becomes stronger, any chance that there might be of the Soviet Union winning an aggressive war will obviously become less. The existence of a North-Atlantic Security Pact of mutual assistance including the United States and Canada would further reduce the chance of Soviet success.

The existence of an Atlantic Security Pact in 1935 would have prevented the Second World War in 1939.

On this account the Soviet Union has pressed her efforts to drive the United States, Britain and France out of Berlin because her success in this line would deal a damaging blow at Western Union. It is this effort and the willingness to run the risks which it involves that has added tension to the present situation. I don't believe that the Russian people or even the Soviet leaders want war today; but their intransigent attitude has increased its possibility.

Even though the situation in Berlin might improve, there would be other points of tension and difficulty. We shall only have a stable peace when the Soviet Government seeks the welfare of their people rather than the extension of their power.

In short, the Soviet attitude since the end of the war has driven and is driving the Western democracies into the same kind of union to preserve the peace as was needed to win the war. It is a defensive union. No one of these countries has any aggressive intentions, and Russian distortions will not alter that fact.

You remember the eloquent and courageous words of the Premier of Belgium, Mr. Paul Henry Spaak, in the Session of the United Nations Assembly not quite a month ago. Turning with dramatic emphasis towards the representative of the Soviet Union, Mr. Spaak spoke clearly and unmistakably for all the democratic countries. I quote:

"We do not want to dispute communism. We consider that for many countries communism may be necessary, but we think it is something the Western world can do without. Without wishing to discuss any particular regime we want to affirm that, having fought in the last world war against fascism and against Hitlerism, we have no intention of submitting ourselves to any kind of authoritarian or totalitarian doctrine whatever.

We are for liberal democracy; that is to say, we believe - with all our might and all our conscience - in the necessity of building a political society on liberty of thought and writing, freedom of assembly and association. We want free elections, a government responsible to the people, the respect and dignity of man, and a state that served man, not a man who has to serve the state, still less a man who has to serve a party."

A little later on in this same magnificent speech, Mr. Spaak continued:

"The Soviet delegate need not look for complicated explanations of our policy. I will tell him what is the basis of our policy - in terms, perhaps slightly cruel, but the ones a representative of a small nation uses: Do you know what is the basis of our policy? It is fear of you, fear of your government, fear of your policy!

...../Do you know