

departure in Canadian policy but rather a logical step in a process, taken at the right time, the time when the Soviet Union was clearly signalling its wish for better relations with the countries of the West, not least with the two great states of North America.

By finding, after a long, delicate and demanding process of negotiation, a formula for recognition of the People's Republic of China, Canada broke the log-jam and opened the way for Peking to take the China seat in the General Assembly and on the Security Council. This is not just the Canadian view -- it is a view held widely in the world.

The bi-polar world, with the United States at one pole and the Soviet Union at the other, has passed into history. It was going already as contacts between East and West multiplied and as confrontation gave way to the phase of negotiation that may yet usher in an era of co-operation. The arrival of China on the world scene presents us with a triangle of forces. Chou En-lai has said that China's intentions are peaceful. China is determined, however, to become a major nuclear power and will do so. China has publicly repudiated the super-power role. But at the United Nations and in the world at large this role is being accorded to it. I am interested to note that the *Economist* of London refers without comment or explanation to the three super-powers.

Whatever China's relative position in economic or military terms and however the Chinese leaders see their own role on the international scene, China is already a super-power politically. This is a result, as I have suggested, of a consensus of world opinion. It would appear that China is seeking a position of leadership in the Third World. This is a development that must be watched carefully. The three-cornered world may not be much safer or easier to live in than the bi-polar, but it is more realistic. Without the participation of China the nations of the world could not possibly reach agreements on security, disarmament and arms control or nuclear testing that would be universal in application. With China in the equation, at least it is possible, if not, in the short run, very probable.

China has made clear on numerous occasions that it will not join the United States and the Soviet Union in a great-power hegemony -- even if either or both of those powers wished that to happen. China is committed to universality in seeking settlement of disputes and working toward the great objectives of peace, security and reasonable universal prosperity. What this means remains to be seen. From a Canadian point of view the prospect is welcome.

World experience in the years of confrontation should have taught us all that governments with whom we have disagreements do not disappear or change their ways because we ignore them or keep them at arm's length. Certainly Canada has learned this lesson and learned, too, that people under oppressive rule are not generally helped by sending their government to Coventry. The opposite is more likely to be the case. From our own experience, Canada has learned that world peace, security and prosperity are best served