

It is quite true that there are strains and stresses on the coalition at the present time. There has never been a coalition, even in wartime, which was easy to manage. In peacetime, they are not very often necessary. But in a period such as we have at present, between peace and war, a coalition is not only desperately required, but it is very difficult indeed to manage. So there are stresses and strains now pressing against it, but we will be able to weather them. It is quite true that the greatest of these at the present time is in the Far East. I have not come across a better short expression of the nature and the importance of these Far Eastern strains than I found in a paragraph in the April 9 edition of the Economist. It reads as follows:

"The danger of the next few months is that, confronted by the threat of renewed fighting off the China coast, many otherwise sensible people in Britain--"

And the writer could have added Canada.

"--we will say that they would rather have peace than the American alliance. Nothing, in fact, could be sillier, for there is no such choice. It is still possible to have both peace and the alliance. It is certainly not possible to have peace for long without it."

We wish to have in this Parliament and in this country both peace and alliance--not merely the American alliance but an alliance for friendly co-operation with all peace-loving free countries of the world.

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S/C