

We, in this country, have built a nation which is as wide as the continent and which is based on the consent of many diversified groups. Is it unreasonable to hope that our own experience, and the experience of other peoples who have built political organizations over wide areas, can be repeated amongst the nations? What we want in this country, is to maintain our own freedom and to leave other people in the enjoyment of theirs. We know our neighbours to the South of us pretty well and, in spite of all these wild charges of imperialism brought against them, we are convinced that they also wish to maintain their freedom and, like ourselves, wish to leave other people in the full enjoyment of theirs.

We feel, however, that isolation is no longer possible even if it could be regarded as desirable, and that the greatest hope for our own survival, and for the survival of other national units of free people, lies in the development of efficient machinery for international co-operation, such machinery as will make sure that certain principles are recognized as binding in the international field, and that any violation of these principles will be repressed and punished as surely and as relentlessly as law-breaking is repressed and punished within a state.

I do not think Canadians can be looked upon as a nation of "joiners", but convinced as we are that the development of international organizations under a broad scale is of the greatest importance both to the vital interests of Canada and to the building of an enduring peace, we have played a full part in the growing structure of international organizations.

Our free gifts and mutual aid appropriations during the war ran into billions. We were from the beginning an active member of UNRRA and we contributed one hundred and fifty-four million dollars to its relief operations, and when after two years these came to an end, we made available a further twenty million dollars worth of supplies for continuing relief in a number of the devastated countries.

In the field of economic reconstruction, we took part in the formation of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and Parliament has approved a total Canadian subscription of six hundred and twenty-five million dollars for these organizations that were designed to facilitate the restoration of international trade, by assisting devastated and needy nations to get into a position of having surplus products to exchange.

In addition to that Canada has, since the end of the war, provided a total of seven hundred and fifty million dollars for export credits to continental European countries and China, and of twelve hundred and fifty million dollars to the United Kingdom.

Canada was also among the original members of the Food and Agriculture Organization, of the World Health Organization, and of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. We have played an important part in the preparatory conferences of the International Trade Organization and in the organizations set up to deal with international communications of every description. At the same time we have increased Canada's representation abroad to the point where we now exchange diplomatic representatives with many of the countries of the Americas and of Europe and with several of those of Asia, of Africa and of the South Pacific.

There have been suggestions that all this is costly in time and in effort and in money, and no doubt that is true. But when we remind ourselves that two wars have cost us, in addition to the loss of human lives and the human sufferings which are beyond computation, many