

as students sharing my interest in the methods and in the tasks of diplomacy, some reflections on contemporary realities emerging from my own participation in the formulation of Canadian policy under changing circumstances.

In order to understand these contemporary realities we must go back a few decades. Until the earlier part of this century, war was still one of the policy options generally accepted by states. Not until the Pact of Paris in 1928 was war officially and formally renounced as an instrument of national policy. Before that, it was in the final analysis a means of solving disputes. War was even said to be "a continuation of diplomacy by other means". Maintaining the balance of power, declaring war and making peace, forming alliances and treaties, engaging in ceremonial acts and the formalities of relations among sovereigns -- these were the subjects of diplomacy.

If the function of diplomacy was normally to pursue national objectives as far as possible without recourse to war, its main preoccupation was not as it is today the search for peace and the eradication of the causes of war. The acceptance of this task by the international community -- the elimination of the factors which lie at the roots of war -- is a watershed in world affairs. I have myself in Geneva before 1939 seen some of the faltering steps of nations in search of a new road and a new diplomacy.

The ideas implanted in the Covenant of the League of Nations and were given much greater prominence in the Charter of the United Nations. That document embodies many of the new ideas of our time. It proclaims as objectives not only the maintenance of peace and security but also the promotion of human welfare, economic development, self-determination, human rights and human dignity. These are all held to be important factors in achieving a stable, peaceful world. They are all set forth as subjects for diplomacy. A nation's foreign-policy must now take into account international activities of the most diverse nature reflecting many areas of national