



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 59/43

## CANADA IN WORLD AFFAIRS

An address by Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to a Joint Meeting of the Empire and Canadian Clubs of Toronto, November 26, 1959

One month ago today the Department of External Affairs held a conference in Paris of the heads of 29 Canadian diplomatic missions in Europe and the Middle East. It lasted four days and we had an intensive discussion of various problems arising in those areas of direct concern to Canada and also problems of general international concern today. In other parts of the world are 22 more Canadian diplomatic missions making a total of 51. I mention these figures only to illustrate what many Canadians may not know -- that Canada is not far behind the major world powers in the extent of her diplomatic effort.

And in each one of these missions carefully selected Canadians are constantly conferring with government, business and other leaders in a variety of fields, keeping in regular contact with the Department in Ottawa -- and in short -- making it possible for Canada to play a very important part in world affairs.

And make no mistake about it -- that part is important. In fact, for no nation is there a greater challenge in world affairs or a greater opportunity for leadership than there is for our own Canada. We can perhaps give finer leadership than any other nation. Now why do I say that? Let me sketch for you a few pictures.

### 1. Our Ties with the United Kingdom and France

We have inherited from our British and French forbears traditions of justice, constitutional government and of individual liberty. Perhaps we should pause more often to count the blessings which have come down to us so easily from the two great races from which we sprang. I believe, too, that the very necessity of having had to make two cultures and two languages live and grow in harmony together has endowed us with qualities of tolerance and understanding which have great relevance to our attitude in international affairs today. I might add that our national