

our basic requirements, and then decide in what ways co-operation can help us to achieve our common objectives more efficiently and economically.

Having stated the question thus, I intend now to analyse briefly our relations with Europe, what they have been until now, and what new elements they have acquired, in order to bring out a number of consequences that appear to follow from them.

Canada possesses a broad foundation on which to develop its relations with Europe. It is at the meeting-point of two civilizations - the European and the American. Geographically and historically, it is an American country, but it retains close kinship with Europe.

Almost all Canadians (96.8 per cent, according to the 1961 census) are of European origin. Forty-three per cent of these Canadians are of English, Irish, Scottish or Welsh ancestry, 30.4 per cent French, 5.8 per cent German and, in fourth place, 2.6 per cent Ukrainian. About 14 per cent of Canada's present population were born in Europe. With so many Canadians of European birth or origin, it is not surprising that European cultural influences have been so dominant.

Our constitutional and judicial institutions, for example, have been very largely based on yours. Our cultures have developed more or less in symbiosis with one another, and are continuing to do so more and more as a result of the recent extraordinary progress in the field of communication. On both sides of the Atlantic, patterns of economic and political behavior are rooted in certain basic values that underlie Western civilization.

In the field of foreign policy, circumstances have dictated that Canada should be associated with the United States and Western Europe. Through two world wars we have been closely involved in events in Europe. For 20 years Canada has been a member of a defensive alliance with Western Europe and the United States. Peace, prosperity and stability in Europe are of direct concern to Canada, since it could not hope to escape the consequences of any world conflict that might result from a failure to settle Europe's problems. In a way, Canada's security is rooted in Europe, where its interests are bound up with those of its allies. It is thus entirely natural that Canada should be associated with all discussions aimed at reducing tensions in Europe.

Times change, however, and the situation is not the same as it was 20 years ago, either for Canada or for Europe. The political, economic, commercial and technological circumstances are different. Even in cultural matters, opportunities for co-operation exist now that were difficult to imagine a few short years ago.

In these 20 years, many things have come to pass in the world, and in Canada, that prompt us to re-examine things from a fresh angle, from a point of view more in keeping with the new situation. Canada, like any other country, must adapt itself to the new conditions prevailing in the world in which it must live and develop.

What can we observe in the world today?

The military and destructive power of some countries is now greater than it has ever been. Paradoxically, it is this very power that has so far frustrated