

stubborn enough often to prefer our own ways. Canada's decision to be a distinct and independent nation was made many years ago and we can all take it as a fact now that we will continue to exist side by side as two separate nations, though moving along with other free nations to that closer and closer co-operation which is required by the facts of life in this second half of the twentieth century.

Americans and Canadians are proud of their close friendship based on mutual respect. We can be just as proud of the co-operation we have achieved in providing for our common defence. This co-operation is all the more effective because it is solidly based on respect for each other's rights, responsibilities and interests.

Despite what has been happening in recent weeks, the necessity for this defence co-operation remains. I do not think we can afford to act on the assumption that the so-called cold war will thaw out over night. Your President has wisely said that we must be prepared to examine all overtures in good faith, but he has also warned us that it would be very foolish to accept words in place of deeds and to decide that conciliatory gestures can by themselves remove the danger that threatens our security.

We can only afford to lessen the measures we have taken for our defence after positive proof by the Soviet Union that it has truly abandoned any aggressive or subversive designs.

There is however a danger in thinking that the free nations can make themselves secure through military strength alone. Military strength is indispensable, but we must also find the means to maintain and develop the measure of social justice and economic opportunity we have achieved in our own countries, and we must work for the extension beyond our countries of human well-being and of that basic human equality which is the hallmark of a genuinely free society.

If we are not willing to do that, how can we expect to convince others that our way of life has more to offer than Communism?

Therefore, while we are strengthening the free nations of Western Europe and halting aggression in Korea, we cannot afford to overlook those vast areas and populations in Asia and Africa and even in this hemisphere where mass poverty prevails. It is not very helpful to preach the abstract advantages of freedom to men and women who are suffering from misery and starvation.

And here may I say publicly what I have already said privately to President Eisenhower, and that is how impressed we were with the speech he delivered to the American Society of Newspaper Editors about the middle of last month. Then he set forth in clear and simple words the aspirations of freedom-loving men. Let us hope that the Communist leaders of the world will heed them and show by their deeds that they really want peace.