

The task of the two farmers now is to reduce any new areas of disagreement which may arise between them in the same way as they reduced the old - that is, by constant reflection, restraint, forethought and watchfulness. The task should be easier because of the very large area of agreement between them.

I have spoken in parables about the existence of areas of disagreement between Canada and the United States. It is a matter of public knowledge that in recent months there have been some differences between us about Far Eastern policy. Speaking in the House of Commons on February 2, Mr. Pearson said:

"While I do not gloss over these differences, I should like to warn against exaggerating their importance, because they have not weakened the basic good understanding between us, resting as it does upon a harmony of abiding interest and on the recognition of common values and common rights, one of which is the right to disagree as friends with each other, and the other the obligation, again as friends, to resolve these disagreements peaceably."

Mr. Pearson in his speech went on to indicate that in his view these differences between the Canadian and the United States Governments should be looked at in the perspective of the broad measure of agreement on fundamentals which has existed between our two governments ever since the Korean war started. We agree that world peace is now in jeopardy. We agree that the extension of Soviet imperialism must be opposed. We agree that the principles of collective resistance to aggression must be maintained. We agree that the main front of the free world is Western Europe. Our disagreements have arisen in deciding how our agreement on these fundamentals should be translated into immediate policy and action, taking into account the present relative military weakness of the Western World.

Any differences between us over foreign policy should be looked at not only in the perspective of the broad measure of agreement between us on fundamentals but also against the background of the full recognition by the Canadian Government and people of the great debt of gratitude which they owe to the United States for the way in which it has during the past ten months rallied the whole of the free world to defend its common liberties against the increasing danger of Soviet aggression.

Three years ago when the Cominform seized Czechoslovakia, the United States and its fellow members of the North Atlantic community embarked on a process of strengthening their armed forces and their unity. Looking back at this period of the last three years, it is clear that up to the time of the attack on Korea ten months ago, none of us in the North Atlantic community was moving fast enough. The result, I am afraid, was that, instead of the gap between our strength and Soviet strength narrowing, it may well have been widening; if so, the inevitable result would have been disaster.

This policy has been reversed because of the leadership which the United States gave to the free world after the attack on Korea. The United States doubled