

Yet it is good to know that the Commonwealth, with its monarchical and its republican membership, is flexible enough to include Asian as well as Western members, and a republic as well as monarchies. This becomes an essential feature in the new and important role which the Commonwealth now performs, a bridge between the West and Asia at a time when there are too few such bridges and when they are more important to the world's history than ever before. All those who believe in co-operation between states must be heartened by this new opportunity of service which is afforded the members of the Commonwealth family, and they must be heartened also by the fact the Crown will continue to play a vital part in that association in the future as it has in the past.

At London, as I have said, it was agreed last December to differ, if necessary, in the titles and style of the Crown, but we all agreed, without difficulty and without difference, in respect of our determination to pursue within the Commonwealth those ideals for which the Crown so finely stands--peace, dignity and ordered progress.