

(C.W.B. March 23, 1966)

of the Senate Chamber in the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. About half the portraits date from before Confederation in 1867. The oldest is that of Jonathan Sewell, Speaker of the Legislative Council of Lower Canada from 1808 to 1837.

The refurbishing task, which is to be finished by March 31, will consist of cleaning the portraits, relining them, revarnishing them and improving their installation in the frames.

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#### CANADA'S ROLE IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS

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away from them, the "imperialists" are said to be turning desperately to military means to retain it. It is in these terms that events in the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam and sometimes Indonesia are accounted for. In these circumstances the U.S.S.R. maintains that it has no choice, it is its "sacred duty" to give moral and material assistance to "peoples fighting for freedom and independence"....

...Finally the U.S.S.R. and its allies are inhibited from acknowledging the primacy of their national interests as states over the world revolutionary role they have traditionally assumed....

#### CHOICE OF COMMUNIST POLICY

...It is evident that the pluralistic but still basically united "East" is faced with a set of apparently contradictory choices in foreign policy. On the one hand, the perpetuation of its own social and political system and the retention of control over the international Communist movement...seem to demand a continuing commitment to a strategy which entails a constant danger of collision with the West.

On the other hand, the overriding need to avoid such a collision...the need to find a solution to the problems of nuclear proliferation, and the necessity to resist the Chinese challenge - all these seem to demand accommodation with the West and therefore relinquishment of a revolutionary role.

The solution that is apparently being tried...could be both disturbing and encouraging from the Western point of view. I prefer on the whole to regard it as encouraging... If the revolutionary imperative presents an accommodation with the West in general, it does not prevent accommodations with certain Western states in particular, and some of the benefits of *détente* can be retained even at a time when the most important *détente*, that with the United States, is in suspense because of the revolutionary imperative....

#### CANADA AND THE U.S.S.R.

It takes two to conduct friendly relations, and what is Canada's position vis-à-vis the U.S.S.R.?... Canada, like most other Western countries, has participated in...exchanges for a number of years not only with the U.S.S.R. but with Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and other countries of Eastern Europe. Canada...has sold great quantities of wheat to these same countries. The volume of private tourism from Canada to the European Communist countries is rising rapidly, and they have ceased to be entirely remote and mysterious regions. Our inter-governmental

relations are reasonably good, always allowing for the gulf between us on fundamental issues....

Purely from the Canadian point of view...we have a definite interest not only in the absence of hostility but in genuine co-operation. Moreover, like every other country...Canada acts in the world and is acted upon in two ways: as itself alone, pursuing its own unique national interests, and as an ally, a neighbour or a member of one or another group....

...Our own conception of our place as a nation committed to the NATO Alliance in defence of the West is different from that attributed to us by the Communist countries, and this difference has an observable effect on the sort of role we can play in relations with them.

That role is also profoundly affected by another observable fact - that, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned, there is really only one non-Communist country in the world whose policy is of vital significance to it - the United States....

It is a matter of traditional wisdom that Canada's closeness in all senses to the United States has lent its views greater weight than they might always have received uttered in isolation. This is the positive aspect of our situation, on which I think it reasonable to lay greater stress at this juncture in East-West relations than on the negative aspect, that we owe our security in an age of super-powers to our great neighbour. But let that fact not be forgotten....

Those who argue that Canada would be able to play a more effective role internationally if we withdrew from NATO fail to meet two arguments. They cannot demonstrate that we should gain new influence. We could not hope to lead the non-aligned states, whose principal concerns are different from our own. And we should lose the close association with the United States and the other major members of NATO which is the source of much of our influence in the world....

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#### TWO-NATION CENTENNIAL PLAN

Delegates representing northern British Columbia, Alaska and the Yukon met in Whitehorse late in January to plan a joint centennial project for the province, the state and the territory. Its name has not yet been chosen, but the aim of the group is to stage a mammoth campaign to attract more visitors over the Alaska Highway during the summer of 1967. The occasion is not only the centennial of Canada, as well as of British Columbia and Alaska but the twenty-fifth birthday of the Alaska Highway.

Supported by chambers of commerce and other local organizations from Mile Zero at Dawson Creek, B.C., to Mile 1523 at Fairbanks, Alaska, the group expects additional support from all communities on tributary access routes such as Dawson City in the Yukon and Skagway, Anchorage and Juneau in Alaska.

Suggestions for a name for the summer-long event are invited from all parts of North America by the Department of Travel and Publicity at Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.