

States. One does not have to go through a long catalogue to remind oneself of the parade of injustices and discrimination and of all the negative things in the world. They are there and we cannot turn our backs on them, but while we consider that, I think we should also be as reflective of the creative things that are happening in the world to help bring mankind together. This is not just an empty vision I am presenting to you. It is a reflection of the reality of the many movements throughout the world which are perhaps spinoffs of the United Nations and spinoffs of other international associations.

In the past few years I have had the opportunity of traveling to quite a number of countries. When I go into their societies and cultures I find something very interesting happening in our world. There is more positive development taking place than is reflected in the headlines which tell us about the confrontations and the terrible things that are happening. There is more creativity present than we realize, and I think that is a reflection of what the United Nations principally has been able to achieve.

I am just suggesting here that perhaps it would be helpful if we, as parliamentarians, gave more emphasis to the creative side of the world which would give a greater sense of encouragement and hope to Canadians generally, if an argument can be put forward that Canadians are kind of turned off international development, because progress does not seem to have been made when you measure it by a very limited yardstick. Therefore, it would be helpful to remember that there are 168 non-governmental organizations in this country which drew in excess of \$50 million in matching funds from the Canadian government last year. These 168 non-governmental organizations reflect the work of thousands of Canadians who stand for the very things mentioned in the motion and which we see as an ongoing operation.

● (1640)

I should like to remind the House that on November 6 the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Miss MacDonald) said that the government attaches great importance to the work of non-governmental organizations, and that the support of government for these organizations will increase, and not decrease, in the years ahead. That is very good news, particularly for those many Canadians who are concerned with the direction of the government in foreign policies geared to promoting creative development in the international world community, which the hon. member drew to our attention.

Briefly I should like to consider some of the points in the hon. member's motion. The question of promoting international peace and security is handled in the Charter of the United Nations. When we talk about peace and security, we would be remiss if we did not remind ourselves of the role of Canada in peacekeeping forces in several areas of the world. Indeed it is a tradition for Canada to maintain its participation in international peacekeeping forces. That is one example of how we have contributed to the promotion of international peace and security.

Constitution

In the second part of his motion the hon. member calls our attention to the need to maintain just and honourable relations between nations. Of course to that we say "amen". In addition to maintaining an extensive diplomatic network, Canada has adhered to many conventions regulating the conduct of relations between nations. We helped to draft a convention on friendly relations between states. We adhere to the 1961 Vienna convention on diplomatic relations, and participated in establishing the 1963 Vienna convention on consular relations. It was ratified in 1974, not only to protect its own citizens, but also to regularize this aspect of relations between states.

When we consider the next item, fostering respect for international law and treaty obligation, we see that Canada strongly supports the rule of law in international affairs. The strong participation of Canada in the ongoing Law of the Sea conference is an example of our participation in this endeavour.

The fourth item is encouraging the settlement of international disputes by arbitration, which is the most important aspect of this motion. But we must remember that Canada accepts the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. In certain instances we are prepared to accept arbitration as a means of settling international disputes. Arbitration clauses are often included in our bilateral agreements with other countries. Many of the items mentioned in the motion are before us in an ongoing manner.

The hon. member drew to our attention particularly the fifth item in his motion which deals with transferring agreed national powers to world authorities to facilitate world peace. The United Nations is building the framework for such a world order. It is a very slow, one might even say methodical, process. We are in motion on that. But we should remember that in any transferring of national powers to world authorities, the role of the provinces would be paramount, in any consideration of that subject, because some of the powers being considered now lie within provincial jurisdiction.

In closing, I commend the hon. member for his motion, for making a plea for the interparliamentary association to which we belong becoming more vigorous and following the lead of the World Federalist Parliamentary Association in bringing to the floor of the House and before the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence their findings, so that all members of the House can share in the activities of these very worth-while associations.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I enjoyed the speech and the remarks of the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. MacGuigan). It sure beat his lectures at the University of Toronto Law School which I attended.

Mr. MacGuigan: You should have heard Atkey's.