

Canada or of mankind. I suggest that we must always urge cool-headed action in dealing with world problems. We have a far wider influence in the world than most Canadians realize. I do not take any credit for that myself or on behalf of the Government of which I am a member. I do not say that we are doing more than previous Governments did but Canada has a very wide influence in world affairs.

Today I propose to review briefly and sketchily some of the ways in which Canadian efforts are being directed in dealing with various world problems. Before proceeding to do so, I feel that I must pay a tribute to the men and women serving Canada in the Department of External Affairs. They number about 2,000 and I believe it would be impossible to find a more devoted group than these officers and members of our department. Canada now has diplomatic relations with some 63 other countries, 19 in the western hemisphere, 22 in Europe, 7 in Africa and 15 in Asia including the Middle East, Far East and Australasia. This does not mean that we have 63 embassies because in some cases an ambassador will be representing Canada in two or in one case in four different countries; there are 16 countries to which our ambassadors from another country are accredited. I do not believe that any nation in the world has a finer group of foreign service officers today. These men have been carefully selected and trained. Our senior foreign service officers have vast experience, and in my time as Foreign Minister I have not found representatives of any other country who were any better.

We have been helped a great deal also by the type of ambassadors sent here by other countries. We have a large number of embassies in Ottawa staffed by distinguished citizens and through their work here Canada has made a large number of friends. All over the world you run into ambassadors who have served in Ottawa and who have left as friends of Canada. It is very important that we appreciate this work being done here and also that we learn from them because each and everyone of them has a great deal to offer.

Disarmament

Canadian efforts in the world of today have been directed in various fields. Perhaps the most important has been the field of disarmament. When I mention disarmament I mean not only the attempt to reach agreement on the reduction of arms but also the effort to bring about a cessation in the development of more fearsome weapons. There are two sides to the picture: cutting down existing weapons and preventing the invention and development of weapons which are becoming steadily more destructive.

From the start Canada has participated in disarmament negotiations commencing as far back as 1946 or 1947. Our most recent efforts in the negotiating field, were as a member of the Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee which was set up by the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, the United States, France and the Soviet Union at Geneva in the summer of 1959.