

experience confirms the view that conferences without careful preparation often do more harm than good.

"In this essential preparatory work of consultation and in the reaching of decisions about this problem of what to do about Germany now that EDC has gone, the NATO Council should, I think, be used to the utmost. This does not mean, of course, that special negotiations by the three occupying powers may not have to be carried on with the Bonn Government, whose agreement is essential for any kind of NATO solution of the problem; or that a preliminary meeting such as that proposed for London might not be useful. It does mean, however, that every member of NATO, whose agreement would be required, and all of whom are vitally interested in the problem, should, through the NATO Council, play a part in the search for a solution. Canada certainly expects to play such a part, as a NATO member with substantial air and land forces in Europe; indeed in Germany itself.

"Views, though they are bound at this stage to be preliminary, are already being exchanged between us and certain other NATO Governments, both on questions of procedure and substance. This is the kind of normal diplomatic operation which occurs between friendly governments before conferences meet and decisions are reached. When you read that it has already resulted in an "Empire row" between the United Kingdom and Canada, you can dismiss that as the kind of exuberant exaggeration which seems to sell some newspapers.

"We hope that our own ideas on both procedure and substance may make a useful contribution to the common pool from which a good solution may emerge. Indeed, it must emerge, and soon, if the Atlantic alliance, and with it our best hope for preventing aggression, is to be kept strong; or, possibly, even, to be maintained at all. The stakes are as high as that. It is, therefore, no cause for surprise that all the governments concerned, including the Canadian, are approaching this problem with earnestness and resolve.

"To achieve success in this task, as indeed in the greater effort, of which this is a part, of keeping peace in the world, it is essential though it is not always easy, to adapt our political and our economic thinking to the realities of an age which is almost as remote from 1939 as it is from 1066. When, for instance, we talk of fear lest one country in an alliance might rearm too quickly and dominate a neighbour, that fear is based on the picture of armies on the march, with guns and tanks. But domination today is expressed, materially, that is in terms of scientists and engineers, with megaton bombs and jet propelled means of delivering them quickly to the ends of the earth.

"In political terms, and this also is not easy to grasp or adapt one's thinking to, this may ultimately add up to the ultimate necessity of the union, for security, even for sur-

vival, of free European states in an Atlantic coalition which will be strong enough to prevent aggression and wise enough to use that strength for peace.

"If from the failure of EDC we can gain renewed impetus to that larger and greater goal, then, indeed, out of this set-back good may finally come."

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LABOUR DAY REVIEW: Labour has come to the fore as a full partner with management in the industrial life of Canada, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Milton F. Gregg, said in a Labour Day message on September 3.

The partial text of Mr. Gregg's labour review was as follows:

"Most employers today accept the labour union as a constructive and beneficial force within the framework of industry, the community, and the national family. Labour, over the years, for its part has gained a heightened appreciation of the responsibilities of management and of the interests of industry and the community.

"These changing attitudes coming about gradually, difficult to assess at any given moment, tend to be overlooked as we dwell on future objectives. At the same time, when we pull back and look at the overall picture of labour-management relations in Canada, there is every evidence that in a relatively short space of time labour has come to the fore as a full partner with management in the industrial life of our country.

"These changes in attitude have gradually made it possible, in most instances, for labour and management to develop the sound working relationship which is so essential to peace and harmony. A working arrangement has been established in which unions and employers find it easier to get to the heart of their collective bargaining problems and with less friction.

"This growing understanding also means that labour and management are able to work together on problems which may normally lie outside the field of collective bargaining -- which, for example, affect safety and efficiency in the plant or the welfare of the community. One good evidence of this is the steady growth of Labour-Management Production Committees in Canada.

"Labour union membership in Canada now stands at more than 1,200,000, as compared with 711,000 in 1945 and 359,000 in 1939. This growth continued and last year 48,000 new union members were enrolled. With such members labour has acquired a powerful voice in national affairs, and the Government of Canada welcomes its representations on all matters of importance to the welfare of Canada, recognizing that underlying all such representations as in the views expressed by union representatives on Government Advisory Committees, there is a deep desire to obtain the greatest good for the greatest number."