

that when the Roman Empire was at its height a man could go, in the quaint words of the ancient commentator, "from the Thames to the Euphrates with his bosom full of gold, with no man to lift a hand against him". But it is equally true that the Peace of Rome was established by conquest and maintained by thinly veiled tyranny.

This model of empire, designed in the Western world by Alexander the Great and continued by Julius Caesar and the Roman emperors, has been pretty much the model, with, of course, many variations, which has been followed ever since, whether by Charlemagne, Napoleon, Hitler or Stalin.

It would, in short be difficult to recall, until our own times, an example of the voluntary union of large states for anything except a war-like purpose, or for the maintenance of that which each state had acquired. Now, however, we are right up against the next great step, and the next great problem; the recognition of the inescapable inter-dependence of all free and sovereign states, and the adoption of the necessary national policies that flow from that recognition, and which may ultimately lead to some form of coming together among such states.

On occasion we may become somewhat impatient with the slow course of history and with the human tendency to perpetuate its own mistakes and its own prejudices; with history repeating itself but in the wrong way. It may restore our time perspective, if we remember that York and Lancaster, although they now contend only on the cricket ground or the football field, were at each other's throats on much bloodier sod only 400 years ago. Not so long ago also, the Dukes of Burgundy and Normandy could lead out against each other their competing private armies. More recently, the bloodiest civil war of history was fought on this continent over the issue of the obligation of union or the right of secession.

It was only after long years of violence and tumult that the domestic peace and unity of the great national societies as we now know them, societies forged out of competing and often hostile lesser units, came into being.

We are now, however, faced with a further and more important step, the extension of our horizons and of our accompanying responsibilities until they embrace mankind as a whole.

Notwithstanding my own plea for patience and maintaining a sense of perspective, it is impossible not to feel that the slower moving processes of the past will not be sufficient for the problems of the future; that we may not have as much time now to reach our essential social and political objectives as our forefathers had. Man's conquests in the natural sciences, indeed, have made greater speed imperative in the development of the social sciences if we are to keep pace with the amazing, yes the frightening, consequence of those conquests.

So it is hard not to be impatient as we watch man's relatively slow progress towards reason and morality in the political, social and economic relations between peoples and states. We must somehow - and soon - eliminate or bridge