

imply or signify moral approval, it is simply an acknowledgment of a state of affairs that exists. If the fact of communist control of China is demonstrated and an independent--I stress the word "independent"--Chinese government, able to discharge its international obligations, is established there, which is accepted by the Chinese people, then in due course and after consultation with other friendly governments...we will...have to recognize the facts which confront us. If we indicate, in the future, recognition of the Chinese government, that will not indicate approval of communism in China any more than our recognition of the communist states of eastern Europe indicated approval of their form of government. It should, however, safeguard the maintenance of contact between the Canadian and Chinese people, of which I have spoken already.

I think it would be inappropriate to leave this subject without saying something about the national government of China, sometimes called the nationalist government--although I hope that all Chinese governments will continue to be nationalist in the broadest and best sense of that word. It is a fact of political life, either domestic or international, that the loser is often made the scapegoat. Whatever the shortcomings of the national government of China may have been, whatever were the inadequacies of individual officials to shoulder the grave burdens, and they were grave, that were thrust upon them, we would be wanting in common decency if we did not acknowledge that that government stood strongly by us as allies in the last war and that they have professed and proclaimed the ideals of our own democratic way of life.

Europe

If I may I should like to come back across the Pacific in this rather mixed-up geographical tour and say a few words about the situation in Europe. During the past few months we have been delighted to welcome to this country the foreign ministers of Great Britain and of three continental powers. The visits of Mr. Bevin, Mr. Van Zeeland of Belgium, Mr. Schuman of France and Count Sforza of Italy have been in some degree a measure of the greater external responsibilities of this country. They also gave us a pleasant opportunity to introduce these distinguished guests to at least a part of Canada and to allow them to renew their acquaintance with our people.

It seems to me that there are two potent forces at work in Europe in which we in this country are or should be profoundly interested. The first is the tremendous thrust in every country in Europe toward economic revival and social betterment of every kind, and the second is the equally compelling drive by Soviet Russia to assert its supremacy or potential domination.

We welcome for our own sake as much as for any other reason the efforts of the people of the countries of Europe to rebuild, not only their homes and their cities but their businesses, their commercial and industrial contacts abroad, their welfare, their self respect and their pride. Our Canadian way of life is so closely linked to the great civilization of western Europe that any change in this area, whether for better or for worse, cannot help but affect us.

Therefore we are greatly encouraged by the fact that in recent months there have been changes for the better. The economic union of Belgium, Luxembourg and The Netherlands is making steady progress and is a forceful example for the rest of the world. France and Italy have put away old grievances and have negotiated a trade treaty which it is intended in due course will lead to a customs union between those two great countries. There has also been a fuller realization of the necessity for greater economic co-operation among members of the OEEC, the Organization for European Economic Co-operation. The signatories to the treaty of Brussels in March, 1948 have moved rapidly toward the co-ordination of their political, economic and military plans. Finally, in August of this year the council of Europe met for the first time at Strasbourg and made a good beginning in carrying out a difficult task.

Membership in the council of Europe is open to all democratic European states. If this council is to play its part in the preservation of peace and the advancement of material prosperity in Europe, the admission of