

In any event, I trust that my decision to remain has neither impressed nor embarrassed, and that into my present participation in these proceedings, no one will read the dubious motive of attempted political subversion - a formidable task indeed and one which I would hesitate to undertake even prior to, let alone after a general election, in present company with its established reputation - and indeed, this is one of the objectives of the Association - for the encouragement of independent and well-informed opinion. Otherwise no man in public life would be invited to speak to a Canadian Club.

In promoting these objectives and in serving the Association in a hundred ways of which we the membership seldom are consciously aware, no one has made a greater contribution than our Director, Eric Morse, and I wish - and I know I do so with the unanimous endorsement of everyone here - to pay tribute to his achievements on behalf of the Association. The high standards which he has so ably maintained in our programmes and the Association's wise policy of emphasizing "quality", in the realization that "quantity" will then look after itself, are to be warmly commended. Above all, however, we are grateful for the efforts which he has made in ensuring that the Association in outlook and in ethos as well as in name, shall be one of Canadian Clubs. This, I firmly believe, is the paramount objective of our Association, and it is a purpose which we can and which we ought to serve, if indeed utilitarian justification need be sought. The encouragement of a renewed and vigorous sense of Canadianism is not a luxury for us, but an imperative requirement. I use the word "Canadianism" not in any narrow, jingoistic sense; there is and always has been a surfeit of rampant uncompromising nationalism crashing through the congress of the nations. I have in mind rather the special, and I think it is special - contribution which we, as Canadians can make, as a result of our own national experience, to the wider international community in which we participate voluntarily yet of necessity. The sort of Canadianism I have in mind is best described - if I may borrow a phrase - as our sense of identity, our awareness that we have essential values and ideals in common, that from our experience in meeting our problems has emerged a similarity of viewpoints and attitudes and perspectives and purposes. All of these are aspects of what I might refer to as the Canadian experience and it is the frontiers of that experience that I intend to explore.

Frontiers of course involve challenges and from meeting the challenges which nature, history and a variety of other factors have put into our lives, we have evolved common responses.