

as peacefully achieved independent status. But, unlike them, Canada is a North American country, living close to the United States. Our chief foreign preoccupation is our relationship with that country. If we can show them that it is possible to live beside it without becoming a satellite, it may well encourage them to attempt the arduous task of working out a close and friendly association of the same kind.

We can easily get tired of talking about our interpretative role in world affairs. Too many people, I think, play it up too much. It is taking the place of the old, favorite motto of luncheon speakers who talked about the famous three-thousand-miles-of-border-without-a-fort-or-a-gun until their audience began laughing at them. I will not therefore emphasize the new theme, or even mention such a thing as The Golden Hinge. Nevertheless, behind the closed doors of the council-chambers at Commonwealth meetings and in the United Nations, good work is being done by Canada and Canadian representatives to bring together peoples who, if they fall apart, will endanger the peace of the whole world.

In the circumstances in which we find ourselves as a nation, it might be easier to relapse into lethargy, and to follow our big neighbor's lead without question. This is a course which has been rejected not only by the Canadian Government, but by the Canadian people, as its reaction to recent events has so convincingly shown.