

that there are now at sea Polaris submarines of the United States, each with many times the destructive power-contained in all the bombs dropped in the second world war -- when you realize these facts you understand that mankind today is in a position to destroy our whole civilization. Here again is another fact which Canadians in particular would do well not to forget, because we just happen to lie between the two great nuclear powers of the world, each of which has the capacity to destroy the other in a matter of hours; it does not need a very fertile imagination for a Canadian to realize what would happen to his country if there should be a catastrophe of that kind.

What is Canada's role in this world? I suggest ... that there must be no escapism in Canada. As a people we have traditions of courage, of common sense and of religious faith. Our nation was not founded by people who were in the habit of wringing their hands, giving up and refusing to face facts no matter how unpleasant they might be.

This is not the character of the Canadian people. We must take our full part in world affairs and do it with a spirit of optimism. This is no day for a pessimist in world affairs. Anyone trying to deal with world problems today who is a pessimist is very likely to end up in a mental asylum, I feel that Canadians should face the world with optimism and also idealism, and this our people have been doing. Canadians from coast to coast look on world affairs from an idealistic point of view. How else can you explain the fact that there has been practically unanimous endorsement of the large programmes of aid to the less-fortunate peoples of the world?

No Covetousness

Our people do not look at the world with envy. We envy no one his or her country. Canadians have had an unselfish approach, perhaps because we have so much land that we do not know what to do with it. If we had not had enough, we might have been just as greedy about taking over other people's land as some other countries have been; I do not suggest for a minute that we are any better fundamentally than any other people.

In addition ... in the world of today Canada must honour her commitments. We must stand by our allies. There are a great many Canadians gone before us who would be ashamed if they ever found that Canadians in 1961 were running out on their allies. This is not the Canadian character. When a nation fails to stand by its friends then it is not worthy of having friends, and none of us wants to put Canada in that position.

This is a day when Canada in world affairs can urge cool-headed action. It is so easy to become excited about some of these questions and start condemning some other nation, start saying things that will hurt the people of another nation, saying things which may have a far-reaching effect that is not for the good of