

and well-being of all the peoples of the world.

In international relations, as, indeed, in all human relations, attitude and will are of first importance. A solution of most problems is not difficult to find where men or nations are really anxious to discover common ground, and bring their wills to that task. Where, however, there is no will to peace, and an attitude of antagonism rather than of co-operation is deliberately fostered, the appeal soon becomes one to force, rather than to reason. Wherever the appeal is to force, security, which is essential to the preservation of freedom, demands a preponderance of strength on the side of freedom. This is necessary, not from any thought of aggression, but to save from destruction, the very nations and peoples who have at heart the aim of creating better conditions for others as well as for themselves.

The problems of today are not going to be solved by any formula. They will be solved only to the degree that each individual does his part, and each nation does its part to further the common good, by an attitude of good-will towards all. In this particular, example is all powerful. Patience and forbearance are not signs of weakness. They are the hall-marks of strength.

WORLD OUTLOOK

If this world of ours is to escape destruction, international relationships, characterized by antagonism and coercion must make way for a world community which recognizes that "over all nations is humanity". The habit of mind which resolves problems in terms of class, or race or of national prestige must be abandoned, and its place taken by a world outlook.

Let us not be deceived. The terrible truth is that the nations have yet to decide which is to prevail: the law of

blood and of death, ever imagining new means of destruction, and forcing nations to be constantly ready for the battlefield; or the law of peace, work and health, ever evolving new means of delivering man from the scourges which beset him. Mankind has still to discover whether violent conquest or the relief of humanity is to triumph in the end.

Whatever may be said by or of individuals, the peoples of

the world - in every community - ardently desire world peace. Today they are looking anxiously to all the representatives of all the nations at this Assembly, to work together towards the fulfilment of this great purpose. The proceedings of this Assembly may help to determine whether the world is to be plunged into the darkness of anarchy, or whether mankind is to continue to move towards the light of ordered freedom and universal peace.

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ILLNESS OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Owing to illness, the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, was unable to be present when the conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers opened in London on October 11. The Prime Minister also had to cancel a luncheon engagement with the King at Buckingham Palace.

In Ottawa, the Prime Minister's Office made public the following statement:

"After consultation with his colleagues, the Acting Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, has decided that he himself will attend the meetings of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers and that he expects to leave by air for London on Wednesday, October 13.

During Mr. St. Laurent's absence, the Right Honourable C.D. Howe will be Acting Prime Minister."

An announcement issued earlier in London stated that Mr. Mackenzie King's health has suffered from the long strain of affairs. "This, the announcement added, has been aggravated by an attack of influenza during the voyage and since his arrival in London the condition of his circulation is causing concern."

"On Lord Moran's advice he will take a complete rest and will not be able to attend the Prime Minister's meetings."

Mr. Norman Robertson, High Commissioner in London, represented Canada when the Commonwealth discussions began at No. 10 Downing Street. Mr. Robertson read a message from the Prime Minister in which Mr. Mackenzie King expressed his regret at inability to attend the meeting to which he had looked forward for months. Mr. King added that he was confident that Mr. Robertson, who had been associated with him in the work of government for many years would be able to represent his views accurately and adequately.

The Prime Minister's message extended greetings to all the Prime Ministers and their deputies with a special greeting to India, Pakistan and Ceylon, the new Dominions.

The Prime Minister, recalling Imperial Conferences of the past which he had attended, said each occasion had not only widened and extended his appreciation of the Commonwealth but had served to confirm more strongly than ever his belief in the value to be attached to co-operation between the Commonwealth countries and in the larger co-operation "which our unity has made possible with the peoples of other nations."