

form and the spirit of democracy can develop. Democracy must adjust and adapt itself to the various forces and considerations in the particular society in which it exists. Simply because some of the forms of government in other countries diverge in substantial respects from our own is no reason to automatically suppose that there is no democracy and no self-criticism within this government. It is all too common these days to hear superficial judgments rendered about governments in various societies. I would urge you to avoid superficial judgments upon the evolving forms of government in the areas of the world in which you are serving.

What I have just said does not alter or limit in any way the basic purposes underlying your service abroad. They are, to spread and impart knowledge and as with the pupils you have had in Canada, to raise your new students to maturity. Maturity in the political sense cannot be equated with one form of democracy or another but few would deny that maturity and the outlook of a mature man or woman means understanding of the other fellow's point of view and a willingness to make concessions to it. This surely is the essence of democracy and this you will find in some measure in every country that you are going to.

All too often these days we hear remarks by people to the effect that go something like this: 'International affairs have become so complex today, the problems are so vast and the solutions seemingly so impossible that there is nothing much an individual can do so why should I bother to pay any attention?' Many of you will have heard this idea expressed in one form or another. In fact I am distressed by the number of times that I have heard it.

This gathering here today is a living refutation of this short-sighted view. As individual teachers you are going overseas to contribute to the education of individuals and small groups in many communities. From this you will gain a certain amount of satisfaction. You will know that you are playing your part in one of the great, perhaps the greatest, endeavour of history. There is