

and the People's Republic of China. Some dramatic events occurred over a table-tennis tournament a few weeks ago—incredible events. A great deal of credit for this unexpected and most hopeful development must be given to the U.S. government, and yet the suggestion was contained in the speech of one of the members of the opposition today that the United States would be offended by our action. Let me quote from an editorial of the *Christian Science Monitor*, a reprint of which appeared in the May 24 issue of the *Globe and Mail*. It reads:

But there is no real basis for objection and Washington itself has just paid Trudeau foreign policy the supreme compliment of imitation. After all, he did open up the road to Peking which Washington is now trying to travel.

So we are living in a new world, a world which is apparently beyond the comprehension of the external affairs critics who reside in the official opposition. A few days ago the President of the United States announced a step to move the world to an era of negotiation so far as a de-escalation in the arms build-up is concerned. He declared that the deadlock at the strategic arms limitation talks with Russia is now over. Hard bargaining lies ahead before the nuclear super powers can actually slow down the lunatic arms race. But they have now agreed, after 18 months of negotiations, to work out simultaneously the limitation of defensive and offensive missiles. The breakthrough at SALT must not be regarded as an isolated development. Where there is progress in one area, it can be matched in another area. Fortunately, that is the philosophy of the government of this nation.

• (4:30 p.m.)

At Geneva, Canada's representative, George Ignatieff, continues with some success his efforts to achieve a ban on underground nuclear testing. He has persuaded the 25-nation conference to listen to scientists who claim that the latest seismological instruments will detect even small nuclear explosions 4,000 miles away. If scientists can prove it, that ought to lead to the signing of a treaty banning all nuclear tests—again a Canadian initiative, again a demonstration that wherever the vital interests of this nation are concerned we will sit down with any government, whatever its ideology, if we think the Canadian people can be thereby aided and the betterment of the world advanced. That has to be our philosophy.

There is much evidence to support the view that the nations of the world regard foreign policy as an extension of their own domestic self-interest. It may be that today the world's nations are interested in détente because, among other considerations, they can see no long-term future in the world for a build-up of armaments and a deterioration of the environment and they have come to realize, at least in part, the need for co-operation.

No one should be naive enough to assume that closer co-operation between Canada and the U.S.S.R., closer co-operation between the United States and the People's Republic of China or closer co-operation between any two other countries in the world represents an abandonment by them of their long-held goals or political ideolo-

gies. For our part, we would be guilty of a monstrous disservice to the Canadian people if we ignored, abandoned or neglected any initiative which may serve to improve the lot of our people and the world. It is in this spirit, a spirit of hope and optimism, that Canada has achieved the agreement with the U.S.S.R. which we are discussing today—and fortunately the vast majority of the Canadian people will hail it and will not support the narrow criticisms we have heard from the official opposition.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our party I welcome the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) back to Canada and express the hope that he fully enjoyed his trip through the U.S.S.R. In fact, I am sure he did. I believe that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) expressed the sentiments of this party when he said it was a worth-while effort on the part of the head of the Canadian government to make personal contact, to talk to the people who rule the U.S.S.R. and to see that country.

I have read the protocol. It seems to me that there is a general understanding or agreement between our two nations to talk to one another, to consult on matters that are of mutual interest, probably to agree where we can agree and to disagree where we do not agree. Is there really any other basis upon which good relations can be established between countries? After all, countries are made up of peoples, and is this not the basis upon which individual people and groups operate?

I am pleased the Prime Minister pointed out that considerable discussion was undertaken in regard to trade between our two countries. Trade has been important. We have sold large quantities of grain to the U.S.S.R. Incidentally, one dealer in my constituency has half a dozen Roumanian tractors on display which he is selling to farmers in Saskatchewan. This is the kind of trade which all westerners are pleased to see because, being fairly practical people—and I take it that the citizens of the U.S.S.R. are the same—we are well aware that we cannot proceed on a one-way street so far as trade is concerned. We are aware that it must be two-way trade, that we must open our doors to the products which the U.S.S.R. has to sell and they in turn will be prepared to purchase from us the things that we have to sell.

I had the privilege of being in Geneva at negotiations on two occasions on the International Wheat Agreement. The negotiators for the U.S.S.R. approached the matter precisely as did the negotiators for Canada—on a practical, hard-nosed and workmanlike basis. So I think that the agreement which was concluded in 1956 and the second one which was signed in January this year will facilitate more trade between our two countries.

So far as consultation is concerned between our two nations in regard to the Arctic and to fisheries, if we can protect not only our interests but the ecology and the fisheries a lot will be gained. I understand that this kind of arrangement was being developed and was well under way before the Prime Minister undertook his journey, but it may very well be that further contact will be helpful.