

on top of a cake and placed beside a larger one is no easy matter. It is not unique with us. It exists in many other places. We are fortunate because of the enlightened views and advanced political systems of our neighbours. We are fortunate also because we are not threatened by any ambitions amongst our neighbours. Nevertheless, if we are to make our contribution as a nation to world affairs, we shall have constantly to scrutinize our relations with the United States, making sure from day to day that our willingness to cooperate in matters of mutual concern or our desire to profit from benefits which the United States may offer, does not lead us to the point of taking too narrow a view of our own interests.

With respect to the BRITISH COMMONWEALTH. Here is a political instrument with great flexibility. The day has long since passed when our independence is in the least threatened by our association in the Commonwealth. Let us take our part in ensuring that this instrument is used constructively and imaginatively for the purpose of protecting and developing our common interests. The survival of a strong independent United Kingdom is of supreme importance to this as to all countries in the American hemisphere, not only for what she has been, but what she may have yet to be - a strong bastion against potential common enemies, both in an ideological sense and in a material sense.

If we consider the major problems in world affairs, we cannot help thinking of the COMMUNIST WORLD. First of all let us tolerate no nonsense within our own borders from people who wish to take advantage of our free institutions to betray the interests of this country. Second, let us realize that Communism has never established itself in any country without the support of Soviet troops. The real question, therefore, is how far we as individuals in Canada are prepared to see the military influence of the Russian Government spread. Where must we draw the line against the expansion of Soviet Military power? In making this decision we must remember that there is no use drawing a line unless we are willing to stand on it. Our Prime Minister said recently, that a way must be found "to ensure that nations which are still free will not be suborned, defeated or destroyed one by one". And further, "it is vital to the defence of freedom to maintain a preponderance of moral, economic and military strength on the side of freedom." So, I repeat. If we draw the line we must stand firmly on it. Then if, in the company of our friends, we have taken this stand, we must go on with the political effort to settle by negotiation and compromise the issues which are dividing the world. It will be a long, slow and unspectacular process. There are many who will doubt that a country of our size can have very much effect on the course of events. But I am sure that the courage and initiative which we have shown in wartime, the capacity we have demonstrated to influence events in war are equally a part of our natural resources in the peacetime affairs of the world. In following this course, we shall be drawing open the iron curtain which may not be as formidable as it seems. There are, I think, many significant breaks in the curtain. The most important are the countless numbers of people, especially in countries like Czechoslovakia and Poland, who know and understand the ideals and traditions of western freedom. They, within the limits that are imposed upon them, will welcome the opportunity to keep in touch with us.

If we are going to talk of drawing lines, we must think of WESTERN EUROPE. An important process of political integration is going on there at the moment. The Prime Minister, speaking in the House on March 17th with reference to the Brussels Treaty of Mutual Guarantee, said that "the peoples of all free countries may be assured that Canada will play her full part in every movement to give assistance to the conception of an effective system of collective