

but rather one of union. It is surely human to disagree as to what are the best procedures to follow, but, as far as the fundamental principles of our foreign policy are concerned, the great majority of our people should be able to come to an agreement, if they wish to do so. There are certain fundamental principles on which all Canadians, without distinction of racial origin, should be able to come to an easy understanding, provided there is goodwill.

The first is international cooperation. This may seem like a set phrase, but although many people talk about international cooperation, very few put it in practice and it is not sufficient to talk about it. Every Canadian should have a firm belief in international cooperation and when I speak of international cooperation, I do not mean unilateral cooperation, but cooperation based on reciprocity, law, justice and charity.

It is only logical that this cooperation should begin with our neighbours. Geography is one of the natural factors which influence the foreign policy of a nation. What is Canada geographically speaking? Our country is part of the American continent. Whether we like this fact or not, we are not free to change it.

International cooperation is essential, among American nations, first and foremost with the United States. From the economic and military standpoint, Canada is linked to the North American order. Our economy and that of the United States are closely knit together. On the other hand, Washington cannot see Canada attacked without feeling itself threatened, just as Canada could not look on indifferently should some powerful nation attack the United States. There exists, in fact, a Canadian-American military alliance. That is the logical outcome of the geographical position and common interests of two neighbouring nations, and it is necessary to accept all that is implied by this responsibility.

Canada and the United States alone, however, do not spread over the two American continents. South of the United States lie several republics holding many things in common with us as American nations. Canada cannot ignore them. As a matter of fact, we have taken an interest in them, but I feel that we should develop our commercial and cultural relations with them to a far greater extent than we have done in the past. South America offers an extensive market for Canadian products. It is up to us to make the best of it.

If Canada is geographically part of the American continent, it is also a member nation of the British commonwealth and this, whether we like it or not, is also a fact.

So long as Canada remains associated with this group of nations, it must take this partnership into account when framing its foreign policy, and even if it were not bound to the British commonwealth, it should nevertheless base its foreign policy on the interests which it has in common with Great Britain. This cooperation is essential, however, between Canada and the other members of the British commonwealth acting in the capacity of sovereign nations. It must rest on complete reciprocity and be governed by their respective legitimate interests.

This cooperation, however, should allow Canada complete command of its own foreign policy which ought to be framed first of all according to the common welfare of its people.

In other words, our cooperation with the nations of the commonwealth should be conceived not on the colonial but on the Canadian level. Canada, moreover, is a member of the universal comity of nations. This is the third fact which must define the fundamental principles of our external policy.

The interdependence of nations has always existed, but it has been brought out much more forcefully by the last war and it is still obvious now that the war has ended. The nations of the world depend upon one another for their prosperity and their security.

The economic set-up of nations is so much interrelated to-day that prosperity has become as it were indivisible. It appears that no part of the globe may prosper if another section of the world is in the throes of economic depression. The economic upheaval which now hinders the economic recovery of the world, exemplifies this truth.

Likewise peace is just as indivisible. Such progress has been made in the manufacture of armaments in the atomic age which now dawns that the next war, if ever there is one, will be a war between continents. Bombs may be launched from one continent to another, and within a few hours waves of planes may spread death and destruction amongst the enemy. In such a conflict, as a result of the economic interdependence of nations, all would be inevitably involved. Our prosperity, based mainly upon foreign markets, and our security make it imperative for us to seek international cooperation.

It is within the United Nations Organization that we must strive to uphold the prin-