

experience that the differences between the groups cannot be settled by the usual democratic methods of conciliation and compromise.

There is no neat general solution for the international rivalries of today. Beware of the person who propounds simple solutions, who thinks, for instance, that if the Charter of the United Nations were amended, or if the chiefs of the governments of the great powers were to hold a meeting, or even if the issues were forced quickly to the point of war, the world would soon emerge into an era of harmony and prosperity.

We must work towards amelioration and not hope for complete solution. Political problems are rarely wholly solved; they only change their shape and their importance. It has taken some time for the people of the Western world to appreciate the realities of today. The events in Prague last February clearly established that one great power would pursue at least all means short of war to attain its ends. This was a tragic coincidence for the Czechs, because it was the Munich decisions about Czechoslovakia in 1938 that ended the last hopes that the world might be able to live in peace with Hitler's Germany.

I think that our peoples are agreed that a strong effort must be made to stop the insidious form of indirect aggression which was practiced in Czechoslovakia and in other satellite states. They are also agreed that in union there is strength. As Benjamin Franklin said at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately".

Economic assistance to the countries of Western Europe is one way to go about it. Canada has extended such assistance since the end of the war on a scale at least comparable to that of the United States, taking into account the relative wealth of the two countries. The Economic Recovery Program, a great feat of imaginative statesmanship, is bringing remarkable results under the skillful administration of Mr. Hoffman and his staff.

Economic recovery, however, is not enough by itself. Fear still clouds the horizon of the European peoples and helps to dictate their policies - fear of conquest from without and of disruption from within. To allay this fear more is needed than economic aid. What can be done about it?

The Security Council cannot cope with the brand of aggression, direct or indirect, which gives rise to the fear. It is paralyzed by the use of the veto. The Charter was drawn up as a constitution for an international community. The plain truth is that there is no international community. Therefore the premise on which the Charter was based has so far not been realized. If there were a collective will to make the United Nations work, the United Nations would work without much difficulty. Such a collective will is lacking; for there is no common purpose among the greater nations to join in a sincere effort to remove the troubles that plague the world.

In the Charter itself, however, there were incorporated provisions which make it possible for the free nations to "hang together", and so to avoid being "hung separately". While at San Francisco we all hoped and expected that the veto would be far less of a barrier to decision than it has been, there still were doubts. Article 51 was written into the Charter, which preserves "the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence pending positive action by the Security Council."

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