

151546

Then, too, we have in our midst that dread-
bore known as the "candid friend." His chief
equipment in any discussion of the British Empire
is complete ignorance, but also an authoritative
ignorance, which will brook no nonsense from a
fact. He says he "likes the British," but he
would like even more to reform them and to
change them this way and that "for their own
good," and he is always ready and eager to tell
you how it should be done. His feelings are
terribly hurt by even the most courteous sugges-
tion that study should precede criticism.

However, our British friends and all other
peoples should remember that none of these
knaves and fools, and not all of them put to-
gether, speak for America. They are a strident
but a small minority. They may at moments
delay the process of Anglo-American friendship.
But that process, like God's providence, grows
and works in a mysterious way its wonders to
perform.

Just in passing, may I say, as an old and
affectionate friend of Canada, that this slow
process of Anglo-American friendship is not
measurably helped by those very few but very
articulate Canadians who in public speeches or
at small conferences of entirely unofficial Amer-
ican organizations try to curry favor with Amer-
icans by malicious criticism of England. We
don't want that kind of friendship. Like you, we
have a profound contempt for toadies. Those
few Canadians who try to strengthen Canada's
ties with America by trying to weaken Canada's
loyalty to Great Britain are doing a grave dis-
service to the old and self-respecting friendship
between Canada and the United States.

Canada has no need of advice from her Amer-
ican friends. Indeed, advice to other nations is
by far the greatest American export, in volume
if not in value, and it is high time that a fair
balance of trade, in that respect as in others,
should be speedily restored. However, it is proper
for an American, thinking primarily, of course,

4

151547

America's best interests, to express a hope
and a conviction regarding the part Canada can
play in the coming years of peace as one of the
British Commonwealth of Nations. Very simply,
it is that the Canadian people will be as loyal,
as definite, as tenacious and as effective in their
support of the British Commonwealth and its
Empire in the future as they have been in these
years of war.

The world should never have an instant of
doubt that on all major matters of external policy
the British Commonwealth is united. Any such
doubt would make for war. All of the Allies
are now trying to create a more united world.
It would be blind folly, with tragic consequences,
the nations of the Commonwealth were to
sacrifice or to weaken the unity which they have
already achieved among themselves. While we
are building the Temple of Peace, let us make
sure that its foundations are not at the same
time being destroyed by political termites.

Now what can be done to strengthen and
speed the process of Anglo-American friendship
upon which depend the safety and the happiness
of all the English-speaking peoples and of free
peoples everywhere? One sure way is for Amer-
ica and Britain each to know and to acknowledge
honestly and gratefully what it owes to the other
in this war. The British people, in this as in so
many other ways, have set a noble and gracious
example. They have expressed with frankness
and with warmth what they owe, or think they
owe, to the United States. It is certainly appro-
priate, and about time, for an American to try
to state, at least in part, America's debt to Britain.

Great Britain gave us time. She gave us time
when she alone stood between us and the most
powerful and loathsome tyranny in the darkest
annals of mankind. Time, time to save our skins.

In one of the most superb acts of calculated
daring in all history, the British Government,
immediately after Dunkirk, stripped the British

5

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