

Now I know from my experience at home, and I imagine that the world is much the same in the East as it is in the West, when there is a press conference it is an occasion when quite a lot of questions are directed at whosoever happens to be the occasion for the press conference. We had a general election in Canada last year and I went about the country from one end to the other, and everywhere I said I was going to make only one promise -- that I would do my best -- and I cannot make any other promise to you about whatever questions you want to ask me. But I will do my best to give you as full and as frank answers as my limited knowledge will permit. So that if you think that that is good enough for you to risk any of these questions, well, I am at your disposal.

**QUESTION:** Mr. Prime Minister, have you seen anything in India which might lead you to recommend an expansion of the Colombo Plan activities in which Canada is participating?

**ANSWER:** Canadians are very much, I would say, enthusiastic about the part we are taking in the Colombo Plan, and our people are quite prepared to go along. Of course they are, like tax payers in every other country, quite concerned about the rates of our taxes, but I think they feel that what is devoted to that side of international cooperation is well worth the portion of the tax that it means for each one of them. Now I can't make any positive statement about what our next appropriation will be. I am going to get back before our budget is presented by the Minister of Finance because I want to have my part of responsibility in the recommendations that he will make to Parliament. But I can assure you that not only from what I myself have seen but from reports I have had before of what has been accomplished -- not by the Colombo Plan but because the Colombo Plan was the occasion of, and of some assistance in the accomplishment -- it is looked upon as eminently satisfactory and as fully justifying the part we have been able to take in thus collaborating.

**QUESTION:** Sir, are you in favour of our Prime Minister's appeal for a cease-fire in Indo-China?

**ANSWER:** Oh, I think that all peace-minded people (and I think they are the majority in most countries) are always in favour of a cease-fire whenever there is fire going on. And I know that I felt genuine anguish when I was in Paris and the situation in Indo-China was being described to me by Prime Minister Laniel.

**QUESTION:** Do you think it is practicable to have a cease-fire?

**ANSWER:** Well, I think it is. I think that we are intelligent human beings and that we have come to the point where we should realize that nobody wins anything by a war.