

*External Affairs*

It seems to me we have got to pay all the attention we can to the opinion of some of these Asian countries. It is there we find the teeming millions for whose minds, and whose souls if you like, there is a struggle going on in the world today. Anything that the United States or any of the western powers do that alienates public opinion amongst these teeming millions in Asia, and perhaps particularly in India, is a danger to the future welfare of mankind.

I want to say a word about something mentioned by my hon. friend and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, namely, the alarm that has been caused generally all over the world by the events of March 1, when this great new hydrogen bomb was exploded in the Pacific ocean. Indeed, we are told that within the course of the next month or so it is planned to explode a hydrogen bomb with power some four times as great as the bomb that was exploded on March 1. Editorials are appearing today—one of them was mentioned over the air—in some of the great British papers as well as in Bonn and in France and in our own papers, pleading with the United States not to carry out that plan. Already the view is taken that the United States' scientists should know enough about this terrific weapon, which in the words of Mr. Eisenhower yesterday seems to have got out of hand, to be warned that dreadful results might follow the explosion of a bomb four times as powerful as the one that was exploded less than a month ago.

In the *Globe and Mail* of today there is a very significant editorial; in fact it is one of the strongest editorials in its language that I have read in any Canadian paper for a long time. While frequently I disagree with the editorials in the *Globe and Mail*, yet I feel that this editorial does bring before the government a problem upon which the government might feel constrained to speak, I mean to speak through the usual diplomatic channels to our friends in the United States. I say: "Our friends in the United States". I do not think that some of the people in the United States who are so outspoken and belligerent represent the people of the United States. In the main the people of the United States are, as the Prime Minister said in Pakistan, a friendly people, generous in every particular, and they are no more desirous of causing international tensions, difficulties and war than any of the rest of the peaceful nations of the world. We owe a great debt to that type of United States citizen, who from time to time has taken the lead in relieving distress here and there across the world.

[Mr. Coldwell.]

I do not regard Senator McCarthy and some of the other people in the United States as representatives of that great country, but I say to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, since we have a long coast line on the Pacific we should be interested in what is going on in that ocean. I propose to read just a paragraph or two from this editorial to indicate the things that I think are pretty widely held, following the events of recent days and the explosion of this powerful weapon. This is what the editorial says. Incidentally, it is headed: "Not an American lake", and by coincidence, I am sure, the London *Daily Herald*, so the radio said today, has a front-page editorial headed with exactly the same words: "Not an American lake". The first paragraph reads:

It is no doubt necessary and desirable that American technicians should discover by trial or error the explosive power of the latest type of atom bomb or hydrogen bomb. Science, if the invention of these new atrocities can be dignified by the name, must proceed without interruption even though it may cause discomfort here or there. Still, it seems reasonable to suggest that the American experimenters should pay some regard to the lives, health and livelihood of people who may be within range of their infernal machine, an antique phrase which has acquired a new aptness.

Then the editorial goes on to outline the effect of this new bomb upon Japanese fishermen in the vicinity, 70 miles away. Some stories tell us today that the lives of these men are in danger. After going on and outlining what happened to the Japanese the editorial says this:

It is reported from Washington, and to a large extent confirmed by President Eisenhower himself, that something went seriously wrong with the Bikini experiment; that the results of the blast were much greater, and extended much further, than anybody expected. How long can the world tolerate these lethal antics?

These are strong words but they are words that are deserved. Then, after explaining that some warning was given to ships in the vicinity, it says this:

Since when has the Pacific ocean become an American lake?

I am not going to read much more of it. It is all along the same line, and it ends up in this way:

It is fantastic that in peacetime the United States should expect other countries to concede an American right to rope off a vast section of the high seas, in the Pacific or anywhere else, for the purpose of producing explosions.

The editorial also draws to our attention that even in the heyday of British naval power, when people used to sing with gusto: "Britannia, rule the waves", never did they try to rope off an area of the great oceans for any of their purposes.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the government should make