

Walter Lippman has put it in one of his columns: "For our own sakes we much wish to live among equals, among peoples who trust us but do not fear us, who work with us but do not fawn upon us. Only equals can really be trusted, only governments that speak candidly and do not say what they think we want to hear, what they believe will keep the dollars flowing."

In this coalition, you have not only the responsibilities of leadership, you have to carry by far the biggest share of the actual burden. You have accepted responsibilities - and the rest of us acknowledge it with gratitude - which match your power and resources. These responsibilities and this burden must, of necessity, often seem irksome to the American people. They will, I think, seem less so if they are considered in the perspective of the history of other countries which have been similarly situated in the past. It is a penalty of power and leadership to feel overburdened and often to be misunderstood. This was certainly the experience of the United Kingdom in the nineteenth century. You may remember how Matthew Arnold, replying to criticism of the Britain of that day, pictured it as "a weary Titan... staggering on to her goal, bearing on shoulders immense, Atlantean, the load, well nigh not to be borne, of the too vast orb of her fate." The United States may today feel at times the same way, but I do not think there is much danger that she will stagger under the "too vast orb of her fate". I hope not, because that fate involves nothing less than the destiny of all mankind.

In this great task of establishing peace and ensuing freedom, we work together, and being free countries we will have our differences as we work and we will argue about them. In any coalition there are bound to be honest differences and, unless they are examined and discussed honestly, they may fester under the surface and poison the partnership. It is of vital importance, however, that in discussing our differences we should use only the accents of good temper and good faith, and that we should display, always, a sense of responsibility and a sense of proportion and, indeed, a sense of humour!

It is one of the glories of our democracy, both in the United States and in Canada and, indeed, in other parts of the free world, that in our achievement of political democracy we have learned to settle our domestic problems by frank discussion, fairly and decently carried on. If we forget that lesson, and there are some signs of this, we may one day lose our system of free and popular government. Similarly, if we do not project this practice into the international democratic system which we are trying to build, our coalition may fail to meet the tests ahead.

There is another way, however, in which the coalition may fail, by a nation trying to escape its proper share of the collective burden.

I'm not one of those who think that any useful purpose is served by attempting to make exact mathematical comparisons between the achievements or the failures of various countries in the coalition - a sort of "box score" so that each week you can see exactly where your national team stands in the North Atlantic League. Such comparisons are not only often