

those past associations have been for the benefit of all of our peoples. I do not think it conceited for us to believe that this Commonwealth group not only works for the benefit of its own people but is also an instrument for the good of free mankind throughout the whole world.

One of the characteristics of this association is its ability to develop and to adapt itself to new situations. All of us, but particularly the British people, can be proud of their realistic genius which enables them to meet the requirements of a new situation and yet conserve the essentials which really matter. I hope -- and I am sure most of them do -- that the people of India, for instance, and the peoples of the Occident look upon each other as human beings equal in every respect.

We all know from our own Canadian experience that unity between us, unity between all the elements of our population and must be based upon that recognition by us all that we are all equal to each other and that all have the same rights to Canadian citizenship, and that Canadian citizenship gives us equality in every respect with all our fellow citizens, whatever their origin, their traditions and their cultures may be. It is because our forefathers had the wisdom to recognize that it was not going to be necessary in this Canadian nation to pour all the elements into the same mould that we now have a Canadian nation.

I believe it is because we have learned to respect one another and to conserve our heritage that it has been possible since the war to admit 800,000 immigrants into our country without disrupting or even disturbing the basic character of our national life. These men, women and children are making a real contribution to our national life. Without them, we would be the poorer economically, culturally and spiritually.

Most of them have come to Canada with the firm intention of becoming good Canadian citizens, and we are making it possible for them to develop a genuine attachment to this country, because of the increasing respect and understanding we have learned to have for the traditions and background of one another.

I am convinced that without this broad human understanding -- this spirit of brotherhood transcending race or creed which has become a national characteristic -- we in this Canada would not have accomplished what we already have in this twentieth century.

And in this year of our new Queen's Coronation, if we all dedicate ourselves to maintaining and strengthening that spirit, we need not fear for the future of the Commonwealth. We have other things for which we can be thankful too. Important though they are, our Commonwealth associations and our national spirit are not the only assets we have.

We share with the Americans this happy continent which is still relatively less vulnerable to direct aggression than any other developed area of the globe.

Then, next to the Americans, we have the greatest per capita developed wealth of any people; and in addition, even greater undeveloped wealth.

But the real link among us is our common ideals, our memories of associations in the past and our convictions that