

Take the situation recently in East Berlin, when the delegates booed the Chinese spokesman. Then there is the exchange of letters between the President of the United States and Chairman Khrushchov regarding nuclear testing. This is encouraging. Of course, if an agreement were secured without the adherence of the French and particularly without the adherence of Communist China, it would not be too effective. All of these things point to better relations but we must in no way let our defences down. Admissions that things may be bettering should lead in no way to diminution in the need of our maintaining our defences.

### Obligations Honoured

...We shall make our decisions, and have, on the basis of Canada's security and the maintenance of our responsibilities internationally. We have made them and will continue to make them on the basis of no other consideration. I start at once by saying that any suggestion that we have repudiated any undertaking by Canada internationally is false in substance and in fact. Canada does not, has not and will not renege on her responsibilities. Let there be no doubt about that. ...

...Defence is a complex problem, a difficult one not alone for Canada but for all the countries in the free world who are having difficulty in this connection. All of them have made expenditures for weapons and the like which, before they were produced, have had to be put in the scrap heap. Somebody said, and I think this is a slogan that appear on the walls of some of the defence establishments in the United States, if it works it is obsolete. There has been a tremendous expansion in plans for defence and the media for defence. How often it has been found that before the weapons are ready for distribution they have already ceased to have any effect.

I want to point out a few general rules that we in this Government have adopted. We say we shall take adequate steps at all times to protect this country. We have taken these steps. Indeed, as the Secretary of State for External Affairs said on December 17 on his return to the House of Commons from the NATO conference in Paris, the various nations there without exception paid tribute to the degree to which Canada had carried out her responsibilities. There was some suggestion today that in the interest of collective security we should co-operate in things that, for us, would not be effective. The stand we take is this: Canada has co-operated and will co-operate, but she will not be a pawn nor be pushed around by other nations to do those things which, in the opinion of the Canadian people, are not in keeping with her sovereignty and her sovereign position.

Our general purpose has been to do our part to assure Canada's security, to work with our allies in close relationship, and at the same time press forward for disarmament, which is the only hope for peace. This is our purpose, this is our aim and our objective. Regardless of the political consequences, we will act to do those things that will carry out our responsibilities. We will fully co-operate with the countries of the Western Alliance, but with policies in co-operation with them that are made in Canada and not elsewhere. We will maintain Canadian sovereignty, regardless of the pressures, of the views, of anyone visiting our country or otherwise. We will have a policy that remains flexible so as to meet changing conditions. We will do nothing to extend the nuclear family. We will do our part to assure the continuance of the contribution of Canada to all UN forces designed to preserve peace.