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"I say to the few in Canada who have advocated such a change that the prestige abroad of the British Commonwealth was never higher than it is today. The prestige is based upon a belief that in the British commonwealth there has been evolved a unique alliance of a peculiarly tough and enduring kind whose members act together not because they are under any strict obligation to do so but because they have the will to act together. Our friends abroad, furthermore, have discovered that the primary objects for which the members of the commonwealth act together are objects which can be shared by other countries of good will. They realize that the commonwealth is not a power bloc exploiting its own interests but a group of like-minded nations whose close association has in the past formed, and should form in the future, a most reliable element within the framework of the world order."

The Fraternal Association of the British and American Peoples.

When speaking to the members of both Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom in London, England, on May 11, 1944, Mr. Mackenzie King said:

"Over many years Canada's relations with the United States have been especially friendly. Throughout the war, we have followed the path of co-operation. We like to think that our country has had some part in bringing about a harmony of sentiment between the United States and the whole British Commonwealth. That harmony is the foundation of the close military collaboration which is proving so fruitful in this war.

"It will ever be a prime object of Canadian policy to work for the maintenance of the fraternal association of the British and American peoples. When peace comes it is our highest hope that the peoples of the British Commonwealth and the United States will continue to march at each other's side, united more closely than ever. But we equally hope that they will march in a larger company, in which all the nations united to-day in defence of freedom will remain united in the service of mankind."