

fluence that, in the aggregate, adds up to a tremendous power. It would be eminently desirable, I should think, in this period of dire uncertainties, if it were possible for Rotarians of many nationalities to gather around discussion tables in the disturbed sectors of the world, and to talk over quietly among themselves the worthiness of national aspirations as judged by Rotary's objectives. The resultant public opinion, I feel certain, representing as it would the sentiments of leaders of thought in the various countries represented, would throw so much weight in the scales of Justice and Peace, as opposed to ruthless conquest, that even selfish interests might well hesitate to fly in the face of such opinion. Under such a leavening influence, the affairs of this troubled world might become possible of peaceful adjustment where now such peaceful adjustment appears unlikely in the extreme.

Certainly, here in our own Country, with the "Jingoists" fanning the flame of discontent for their own purposes, and with unthinking and misguided people by the thousands throughout America slowly being led to the conclusion that America must take sides, should war break out again in Europe, it is incumbent upon you, if you would be in fact the leaders in thought your selective membership intended you should be, to live up to, and to spread, the ideals that have brought Rotary to its present high estate throughout the world, and particularly here in this country.

The world today needs the ideals of Rotary, and its influence for good will and international peace as it never has before at any time in Rotary's existence. Organizations such as yours may well play a powerful, even a deciding, part in the moulding of public opinion throughout the world in the interests of peace and international understanding. Certainly this is a goal worthy of your unremitting efforts.

It would seem to me particularly appropriate, speaking to an organization whose fundamental objectives recognize the importance of mutual cooperation; and in the presence of representatives of two of Maryland's neighboring States, to touch upon a matter of national interest that is at the same time a matter of particular moment to each and every individual state in the Union. That is the subject of mutual cooperation among the various States, towards the solution of their own particular problems, without—and I cannot emphasize this point too strongly—WITHOUT the necessity of Federal intervention or even of Federal assistance.

One of the complaints that has been voiced frequently, and with reason, during recent years by thoughtful men in various sections, and that will be heard more and more frequently, in years to come, I am afraid, unless we State officials do something to remove the prime causes, is that the National Government is intervening too much in the affairs of the States, and taking over to itself certain functions of government that it was never intended the States would relinquish.

Unfortunately, this is one of those insidious things that requires constant vigilance if we are to avoid it. Only too frequently our State consciousness is lulled to sleep by the offer of a Federal grant to do certain things, and we accept the offer gladly, congratulating ourselves that we have been wide awake enough to secure this gratuitous assistance while possibly some of our other States have neglected to seize similar opportunities. All too frequently, however, we wake up later on to find that, in accepting the Federal help, we have