

# Interdependence Declaration Urged

By Prof. Hubert H. Humphrey

*This editorial by Professor Humphrey, visiting professor of the political science department, is the fifth in a series of faculty guest editorials.*

The sovereign nation state acting alone and independently has proven its inability to either provide security in peace time, or safety from the aggressor in war time. People, everywhere, sense this inherent weakness in our world of nation states. People are not much interested in such noble concepts as "sovereignty" and "balance of power." The citizen of today is searching for economic security and personal safety without the sacrifice of individual liberty. This same citizen has witnessed two world wars in one generation. He is convinced that something is wrong and that it is time to try new ideas, new or improved plans of political and social organization. Men in China, Russia, Britain and America are not going back to normalcy. They remember all too well that normalcy in this past generation has been an era of unrest, unemployment, insecurity and war. There has been no peace; there has been no general security. There has been a false belief in America First or Britain First. The principle of tomorrow must be Humanity First. Today we are living in "One World," where our mutual interdependence is the only real fact of social organization.

World War symbolizes the breakdown of power politics with all of its antiquated devices of alliances, secret treaties, and balance of power principles. The western state system with its independent nations, its concept of absolute sovereignty, and its code of international law based upon sovereign and independent states flourished in a world that had not accepted the doctrine of human equality as stated in the American Declaration of Independence or the rights of man in the French Revolution. Once the creed of liberty, equality and fraternity spread its influence over the Western world, the foundations of power politics began to give way.

Political democracy is predicated upon a belief in the dignity of the individual and an acceptance of the brotherhood of men. Political power is recognized

## President's Corner

By Acting-President Clarence E. Ficken

The most discussed subject of recent weeks calls for one more observation to bring us up to date. The quick victory in the Senate for American commitment to a cooperative peace justifies jubilation. The Senate's reversal of form to give overwhelming endorsement to the Moscow version of B2H2 brings the foreign policy issue to a happy ending . . . unless you happen to live in Minnesota. Nationally the question is settled for the time being 85 to 5; in Minnesota, however, we have the doubtful distinction of a 50-50 endorsement, with one Senator for and the other against the amended Connally resolution.

Newspaper headlines proclaim that "isolationism is dead". But there must be a reason why our senior senator, after approving the Connally dodge, votes "no" on the real issue. In all fairness to him the voter will read his full speech explaining such a stand when it comes off the press. Meanwhile, it is entirely safe to conclude that a seasoned solon anticipates that more Minnesotans may be ready to repudiate world cooperation in 1946 than will still be willing to support collective security by that time. In the light of how much has happened in the past two years, or even the past two weeks, who knows what we may count on two years from now.

We have won a campaign, but we can still lose a war. As we go back to our private business it behooves us to keep our powder dry. One way of doing so is to make a contact with such organizations as the Minnesota United Nations Committee or the Foreign Policy Association. Above all, today's studious preparation may result in tomorrow's effective cooperation. If our public opinion becomes truly enlightened, Minnesota will not long remain 50-50 toward the only hope of a lasting peace.

as resting in the people or the community. We call it popular sovereignty. The inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are to be secured and protected by government. It was with this purpose and objective that governments based upon the consent of the governed were instituted among men. The twentieth century has revealed the complete inadequacy of our sovereign and independent nation states to guarantee these inalienable rights. This war has demonstrated that not even the most powerful nation can by its own strength stand alone.

Our freedom and liberty rest in the recognition of our interdependence. Our equality can have real meaning only if we are permitted to survive. Survival is not possible by the continued use of out-moded and antiquated concepts of political organization which ignore the essential fraternity of humanity.

Liberty and true equality can come only in a world of law and order guaranteed by the creation of international organization resting its claim to obedience upon the will of the people. It is precisely at this point where the United Nations become the embodiment of democratic principles applied on a world scale. The rights of nations are not to supercede or destroy the rights of people. Humanity has a priority over nationality.

On the first of January, 1942, a joint declaration was signed in Washington, D. C., by the representatives of twenty-six nations. This was called the "Declaration by the United Nations." The signatories subscribed to a common program of purposes and principles as set forth in the Atlantic Charter and the four freedoms. The Declaration commits all of the United Nations to the recognition and preservation of essential human rights; to the respect of the independence of the peoples; to principles of sound economic and social policy, and to search for an enduring and organized peace.

The phrase "United Nations" has set people to thinking and to talking. Americans again are becoming interested in world organization. The United Nations, coupled with lend-lease and joint military operations by American and British forces, along with the Pacific War Council meeting in Washington, gives real meaning to international cooperation. This is not old fashioned power politics—this is something new, something different. It smacks of democracy in action on a world-wide scale. Our hopes have been further fortified by the recent Moscow Conference, and the present United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Conference at Atlantic City, New Jersey, and the United Nations food conference of a few months ago. Step by step the development of international organization for peace proceeds in war. This time we are not waiting for the cessation of hostilities before we begin the problems of the peace. This time we are not creating a war time emotion for a peacetime institution.

In World War I, America was highly enthusiastic about a League of Nations to be established at the end of the war, only to refuse to become a member. In World War II, America has not displayed any great emotional interest in the idea of the United Nations, yet paradoxically, two major United Nations conferences have met on American soil under American sponsorship and have devoted their discussions to problems of the peace while a war is being waged. In World War I we did not come to an understanding with our allies during the period of the war. We waited until the Armistice, only to discover that our aims were not the aims of our allies. This past week we have received the news of the highly successful Moscow conference. The United States, Britain, Russia and China have arrived at an agreement as to the strategy of the final blow against the common enemies and general agreement on the broad problems of international settlement.

International organization is no longer a dream, a plaything of idealists. Today we slowly but surely are implementing the general objectives and purposes of the United Nations by deed and action. The Declaration of the United Nations

will sooner or later be affirmed by the statesmen of tomorrow and be recorded in history as the Declaration of Interdependence.

## Macalester Has Peace Education

In the November 8 issue of the Minneapolis Star-Journal, an editorial appeared entitled "Education for Peace." Because Macalester College is a coeducational liberal arts college of the high calibre set forth in the editorial, and because Macalester College is educating for peace as well as for victory, we feel proud to be maintaining the high quality of standards set forth by this writer.

The editorial quoted verbatim:

"If there ever was a cause—if there ever can be a cause—worthy to call forth all the effort, devotion and intelligence of men, it is the cause of peace. Organized education has a significant contribution to make to that cause. The possibility of such a contribution has not been clearly seen by the leaders of the nations. This powerful force of education must be fully and wisely used in mankind's next and perhaps last chance to build a peaceful world."

—Educational Policies Commission.

"With 'education for victory' as its theme, this week has been set aside as American education week. In every school today we are educating for victory. Schools and universities have converted their programs to meet the needs of war and to serve the armed forces. Training youth and adults for a part in wartime industry and military service has become vital in the purpose of our schools today.

American education would not be living up to its traditions and its primary function if, in educating for victory, it did not also think about education for peace. An honest and intelligently organized peace must be the fruit of victory. In educating for wartime needs, our schools are not forgetting their long term responsibility to equip people better for life in a world at peace.

An enduring peace based on humanitarian ideals is not imaginable without the powerful force of education. This is recognized by the educational leadership of the nation, and this phase of education's task occupies an important place in the discussions that are to be a part of the observance of education week.

In the readjustments we will have to make when we convert from production for war to production for human use in peace, our schools will be a vital factor. In any program of demobilization, education will be one important aid. With many millions of soldiers and defense workers to be demobilized after the war, the billion dollar education program being suggested in congress is at least an indication that we are not ignoring the problem until it engulfs us.

War has taken its toll from our educational system. Teachers have been drafted and gone into important jobs. Higher salaries in private employment have attracted thousands of teachers. School plants have not been maintained adequately. Population shifts have accentuated already existent inequalities and disparities in the availability of educational facilities. The war will leave our schools with a bigger job than ever to do, and not equipped to do it.

In Minnesota, between two and three hundred rural schools have been closed since the beginning of the war. The number of teachers in high schools in many small towns has decreased, and more than 2,000 former teachers have re-entered teaching because of the shortage.

In the country as a whole 500,000 children are without teachers this year, and 90,000 teaching positions have gone unfilled. With almost half of the nation's teachers receiving less than \$1,200 a year, it is not to be wondered that conditions are what they are in our schools.

If the tremendous task which lies ahead of this country is to be met adequately, our educational system must be strengthened.

If our schools are not put in a position now to deal with the problems of peace, what will victory mean to the common man?"

With this motive in mind, "Education for Peace," the Canadian conference was organized. Town Meetings of the Air are discussed, and every class is confronted with the problems of the post-war world.

War has taken small toll from the educational system of Macalester.

## The Mac Weekly

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The declaration of interdependence made recently at the Moscow conference by the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China has made the idea of the United Nations a reality, believes Hubert H. Humphrey, professor of political science at Macalester college. Mr. Humphrey spoke before a meeting of the National Council of Church Women at the Gethsemane Episcopal Church, 905 Fourth Avenue south, 8 p.m. Thursday, Armistice Day.

Mr. Humphrey is also speaking at a youth rally, at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 14, at the Hobart Methodist Church, 46th and Blaisel.

On Wednesday, November 17, Mr. Humphrey will give an address on "Total War, A Challenge to Democracy," to the Corcoran Parent-Teacher Association.



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