May I at the outset express to the Bund für Internationale Freundschaftsbeziehungen my appreciation of the courteous invitation to address this gathering interested in the strengthening of international ties, the importance of which has long been recognized by thinking people, but the imperative necessity for which is becoming increasingly evident in the face of developments which we see on every side. International understanding and mutual appreciation among the nations and peoples of their policies, aspirations, problems, and culture, highly desirable as this is generally recognized to be, is one of the most difficult things in the world to achieve. Long, and only too frequent, disappointing experiences have emphasized to us this difficulty. It is therefore with particular pleasure that I learned of the existence in Vienna of this organization. The difficulties which we know exist in bringing about mutual understanding make more apparent the necessity for organizations such as this and the need for consistent, persistent, and intelligent effort. It is only my belief that it is the duty of all thinking persons in all countries to contribute in the measure possible to them to that understanding and appreciation of other peoples which impels me to break this evening an almost inflexible rule of personal reserve in the way of public addresses which I have imposed on myself.
It is a trite thing to say that true friendship, if one of the finest, is also one of the rarest things in the world. My own personal experience has, I regret to say, taught me how rare true friendship is, but there has, however, with the years also been brought to me a full appreciation of the fineness of real friendship. During an already rather long career in the Foreign Service of my Government, I have enjoyed many privileges and opportunities, as well as very real satisfactions. Perhaps, however, among these I am not exaggerating when I say that the greatest has been the opportunity which I have had to form lasting and real friendships with many people in every one of the countries in which I have served my Government. That these friendships are real and therefore precious is proven by the fact that although some of these friends in very distant parts of the world I may not have seen for a score of years, the ties which were formed in those distant years show evidences of having been strengthened through absence and distance. True friendships between individuals depend not only upon continuous association or upon community of interests - they depend much more on real understanding and mutual respect. The fact that real friendships between individuals rest on this mutual understanding and respect is the basic theme of the observations which I will permit myself to make to you this evening.

Before proceeding with my theme may I say to you that one of the most useful things which I have learned during my career in the Foreign Service of my country is the appreciation of that remarkable similarity which exists between the life of the people in a small town or city and that in the family of
the nations. My youth was spent in a very small town in which everyone knew every other person in the community with considerable accuracy. We knew each other's strengths as well as weaknesses and because of the small circle in which we moved, the springs of action were clear. I have found that the types of individuals which one finds in every such small community, with the same fundamental passions, aspirations, habits of thinking, prejudices, and attitudes, one finds among the great of the earth and in every country. The only real difference which exists is that in one case the field of activity in which these passions and attitudes work is restricted to a small community, while in the other case they may affect the lives of so many people not only in a great country, but in other countries as well. I have found that in order to seek to understand the relations among nations we must not look for the solution in mysterious or secret diplomatic procedure, but simply examine closely our own relations with our fellowmen in our immediate surroundings, and then translate these relationships into a larger sphere of action in order to interpret the conditions and the resulting problems which we have to face.

Just as true friendships between individuals are based on mutual understanding and respect, so I would like to bring to you who are interested in the promotion of international friendships this basic conception that there can be no real and lasting friendship between the nations which is not based on mutual understanding and respect. A critical observer may very well point out that if understanding does not lead to respect between persons, it does not in all cases destroy the possibility
of friendship between them, but to this I would respond that in personal friendships there enters an element of many basic human passions which do not control in the same degree in friendship between the nations. I think it is well therefore for all who are interested in the developing of closer relations between states as a fundamental of peace and as a necessity for the highest cultural development in states to realize that there can be no lasting friendly and mutually helpful relations between states without this understanding and respect.

The greatest problem which has to be faced in developing this friendship between the nations is that of finding the ways through which the knowledge of the aims, aspirations, and cultural development in the one may be adequately made known in the others. There have been really only two ways by which this knowledge could be spread — through travel and through the printed word. More recently there has been added a third, the radio, which, however, being in so many countries under strict government control, is still a questionable element in promoting real understanding, wide and almost unlimited as its potentials are.

Travel was the first, and is perhaps still in some respects the best medium for developing a knowledge of other countries and cultures. It is certainly the oldest radium. While not an altogether accurate statement, I think it is a safe thing to say that with improving facilities through the centuries for travel mutual knowledge of and respect among the nations have grown. With the enormous increase in these facilities in recent years and the consequent decrease in the
cost of travel, this communication between peoples providing for personal contact and observation has tremendously developed, and I am convinced with correspondingly good results in spite of the apparently accentuated difficulties in the general political situation which we face today. The difficulties between the nations have in some cases become acute, but the understanding of their problems and, to a degree, appreciation of them has been increased with the resulting establishment of greater restraints.

In this respect Austria is a happy country, for with its natural beauties and the hospitable attitude of its people towards strangers, Austria has become one of the great tourist centers of the world. This may be from the economic point of view a very fortunate circumstance and undoubtedly is a very important factor in the economic life of the country. But to me far more important is the fact that this influx of visitors from all over the world has made Austria, her people, her aspirations, and her problems better known to the world and everyone who comes here carries away the definite impression that there is something in Austria which a patriotic, cultured people are endeavoring to maintain in very difficult times and under difficult conditions, which must be maintained in the interest of peace and in the interest of all that is fine in Austrian and other cultures. That your institutions and culture have shown virility through centuries and that your people have always been a friendly and sympathetic one is nothing novel to the well informed in other countries, but it is unquestionably true that the wider knowledge of Austria which has been carried to near
and distant parts of the world in recent years by those who have seen you at work in difficult times has contributed in an extraordinary and perhaps to some in an unrecognized degree to that moral support which has been very precious to Austria from so many quarters.

In spite of the facilities for modern travel, the degree to which the peoples of different countries have been able to use this means for increasing mutual knowledge and understanding has varied considerably. Due to the extraordinary economic situation which has prevailed in the world in recent years, artificial barriers have been set up in the way of travel through financial restrictions of various kinds which are interfering with this contact between peoples just at a time when that contact is most important to ease increased political strains. The natural impulse which people are feeling more and more in different countries, which impulse grows out of the rise in general culture and in the standard of living, to visit other countries and which the greater circulation of money within the respective countries would have facilitated, has been restricted by these artificial barriers.

Again Austria has been particularly favored in these difficult times for it has remained, in spite of these restrictions, one of the favorite objectives of that travel which has been possible. As a consequence it is not too much to say that this understanding in so many countries of the Austrian problem has in a very large measure contributed to aiding
in maintaining her position in difficult times. The travelers who came here found that in Austria in a period of economic and political stress her best traditions had been maintained, in some respects in a heroic manner. This understanding could only lead to that respect which is so necessary in true friendships - and true friends help their friends in whatever ways they can.

Might I observe in this connection that my own country has been one of the principal sources of tourist travel and has therefore contributed no small part towards this mutual understanding between peoples. The American is by nature a curious, inquiring individual and in some ways insatiable in his desire for information. The American people therefore have been continuously great travelers and there is no country in the world today in which a relatively greater number of the population have visited other countries. It is, I believe, important that it should be pointed out in this connection that the types of Americans who travel are more representative of all classes of the population than those who go from other countries beyond their border for recreation and information. In so many countries, unfortunately, the persons who go abroad are confined to the better situated classes. The fact that from the United States so many smaller businessmen, less important professional men, university and college professors, teachers in the public schools, and others with moderate incomes form the largest part of our tourist travel is a factor to which too little attention has been given. These types of persons from other countries seldom go abroad and certainly proportionately
in smaller numbers. The natural consequence has been that in the United States most other countries are better known, and perhaps appreciated much better in their true importance, than the United States is known and appreciated in them. One hears constantly in many countries the thought expressed how much better it would be for their country if its aspirations, institutions, and culture were better appreciated in the United States. I bring to you this evening the thought, and I believe with reason and foundation, that it is very much to be hoped that knowledge of the United States, its people, customs, and institutions may become as wide and as accurate as is the knowledge there of countries outside the United States.

The fact should not be left out of consideration that the United States has been and still is, in spite of the contrary opinion so generally prevailing, the most liberal in its practice in receiving emigrants from other countries. These emigrants, from practically every country of the world, have done much towards contributing to the welfare and development of my country and have had the corresponding advantages which a young, vigorous, and developing country was able to offer them. The letters which these relatives and friends in the United States have written to their families abroad have perhaps to a degree, but I venture to say in a minor and inadequate degree, contributed to a certain knowledge of our customs, life, and culture in other countries. This communication, however, has not replaced that more wide and sympathetic knowledge and appreciation, and perhaps respect, which is the result of
actual travel. I can therefore only look forward with earnest hope to greater travel by Austrians and other Europeans to my country in order to parallel and complement, at least in a greater measure, that travel which Americans are making abroad.

Another of the means at our disposal which is in some respects even more important than travel is the printed word, and here we come to a large field indeed which I can only touch very superficially — even more superficially than I have covered travel. It may be a debatable question as to whether the level of intelligence in every country has been raised, but it is not debatable that more than ever before the printed word reaches a larger number of persons. The degree to which information which leads to accurate and adequate understanding of the life and culture of other countries is available to those who can read the printed word varies today unfortunately in many countries.

The measure in which such accurate information is available is dependent on so many factors that, as I have already said, it is impossible to enter into any detailed description within the limits of the time available this evening.

The adequacy of the public press is naturally dependent upon the size of the country and for this reason the best press is generally found in the larger countries. This statement, however, general as it is, was more true a few years ago than it is today and is still a dangerous statement for some of the best daily newspapers appear in the smaller countries. It is, however, obvious that the degree to which the press in a
country can give foreign news is dependent upon the financial means at its disposal and these in turn are in a major degree dependent on circulation. From this situation there results a natural tendency in the press of many countries to confine news from abroad to more sensational developments in the political and social life and to neglect information on what are really the more important aspects of economic, social, cultural, and political developments. In this respect the press in many countries has not served the cause of international understanding and friendship to the degree which we would desire.

May I observe in this connection that perhaps so far as the daily and periodic press is concerned, my country has been one of the foremost in giving to our people an objective and really wide knowledge of social, cultural, and economic developments abroad, as well as major political and more sensational news. The press in the United States is still uncontrolled and completely free, and there is no country in the world in which there are respectively so many readers of daily newspapers and which is so well served by newspapers. I shall not begin to give you figures concerning the number of newspapers in the metropolitan centers and in the smaller cities and towns, for these figures are so large, even for a country of 128 million inhabitants, that they might appear to you as an exaggeration. The most modest estimates, however, would more than support the statements which I have taken the liberty of making to you and I should like to particularly emphasize that the daily press in the United States contains much more information
concerning conditions in foreign countries than similar papers in other countries contain concerning the United States. This may be a natural consequence of the large circulation of some of these papers which runs into the millions daily, and therefore enables them to maintain news gathering agencies in practically every part of the world. The degree to which advertising of every kind appears in the press in the United States has led to a source of income for the daily newspapers, a part of which income can be used for the gathering of information abroad.

Aside from the daily newspapers I wish I could give you a really adequate idea of the important influence exercised in the United States by the serious weekly, monthly, and quarterly publications. These publications have assumed a number and circulation in the United States which is altogether out of proportion to any similar development in any other country. Some of these periodicals are far from serious and interesting and are intended to meet a popular desire for the lightest form of amusement. What I wish to refer to more particularly is the very large number of serious weekly, monthly, and quarterly publications which are one of the most interesting indices of the American character and culture. The only other country in which this serious periodic literature approximates that of the United States in volume and quality is England, but even in England the number of these periodicals is smaller and their circulation is much smaller, though the general quality is as high.

Such serious periodic literature is found in every country, but the number of such publications is generally very
small, the circulation extremely restricted, and the readers found only among a very small class of the population. I am stressing the number and quality of these serious periodicals in the United States for they exert a very great influence in the country. The reason for this large number of serious periodicals and their wide circulation in the United States must, I think, be sought primarily in the large population of the country which, after all, speaks the same language and among which communication between the states comprising the Union and covering so wide an area is entirely free and not in any sense impeded by the frontiers and many barriers of all kinds which interfere with the free intercourse of persons and ideas in some parts of the world today. While this is an important factor, I think the reasons for the number, quality, and circulation of these periodicals must be sought in the inquiring mentality of the American people to which I have already referred, to the comparatively high level of intelligence brought about as a result of the excellent system of compulsory education, to the desire of the many who have travelled abroad to keep in continuous contact with the developments in the countries which they already know, and to a lesser degree in the ability of the people to allow themselves luxuries of this kind which in many cases they have come to consider as necessities. So important do I consider these publications to be in contributing to international understanding in the United States, that I would like to take the time to speak in a more detailed way and by name
of some of these, but I am not able to do so. What I wish by this reference to emphasize is what I believe is the primary necessity of a wider founding and circulation of such periodicals in other countries.

The material found in these periodic publications, while it concerns itself principally with the tremendous social, economic, financial, and political problems which are commanding such lively attention in my country in recent years, does not crowd from their pages an unusually large number of articles on similar conditions in practically all countries of the world. These articles are for the most part written by people who have travelled widely and who know from first-hand knowledge of the conditions concerning which they write. Their attitude is for the most part objective and not of a propagandistic nature. The compensation which is given to writers for their contributions is sufficiently remunerative to enable them to write in an unprejudiced and objective manner, and the market for their work, because of the large number of these periodicals, is so wide that acceptance of any objective, worthwhile article is almost certain. The pages of these periodicals are open to serious writers from practically every country and it is indeed few of the numbers of any of them which do not contain one or more articles from persons abroad. This situation is one which is not appreciated in a full measure abroad, but I would like to observe that it is of primary importance in determining the wide knowledge which the average American has of conditions in other countries and therefore in the determination of his sympathies.
and mental attitudes.

I realize that what I have said in this connection will have little meaning to those of my hearers who are not familiar with at least some of the leading periodicals in the United States. One of the things which I think those of us interested in international understanding and in people must most regret is that this serious periodic literature does not reach relatively so large a number of people in some other countries.

The books which are written in the United States on subjects relating to social, economic, financial, and political conditions in other countries are relatively more numerous than those produced in other countries, and there would be no such production of books on subjects of this kind in the United States if there were not an avid interest in them by a large circle of readers. The Universities, colleges, public schools, and municipalities have in recent years paid particular attention to the development and to the more extensive use of their libraries. Another feature of American life which is inadequately appreciated abroad is the extent to which public libraries are found in the smaller as well as in the larger cities. There are few towns in the United States of a population of 5000 and more in which one of the most imposing buildings in the town is not the public library where books may be had without cost. I say this with a certain pride, that it is true that the records of these public libraries show that the more serious books are among those most frequently called for by their members. It is customary
in almost all public libraries in the United States to tabulate at the end of each month the calls for the different classes of books, and these records have shown increasingly the interest of the public in serious books.

To this audience I need not speak of the large number of universities and colleges and technical schools in the United States, which number is relatively greater than that in any other country. These institutions, which are scattered all over the country, have a wide influence. The influence of some of them extends over the entire country, while that of others extends over a more restricted area. There is, however, no part of the country, remote as it may seem, which does not fall within the sphere of influence of one or more of these colleges or universities. As the professors in these institutions, as well as a considerable number of the students, have travelled widely, they are centers of diffusion not only for information on our own problems, but on the problems and cultures of other countries. Out of personal experience during my two years stay in Vienna I can say that not a week and often not a day passes that I do not receive the visit of some distinguished American professor, writer, or publicist, who has come here to familiarize himself with the situation and who on his return to the United States will write and speak objectively of his impressions. I shall welcome the day not only in the interest of Austro-American relations, but in the interest of international relationships in general when an increasing number of such Austrians will visit my country, and I am always prepared to do anything within my power to stimulate such a movement.
Of the use of the radio I will not endeavor to speak this evening because although its potentialities for the spreading of information and for the development of mutual understanding are many times greater than those of travel and the printed word, the conditions prevailing in the use of this instrument and to a very large degree the Government control thereof exercised in most countries, have in these difficult times made the radio a questionable instrument in the political and social field. Unfortunately only to a degree in the realm of music is the radio somewhat adequately serving the cultural opportunities which it offers and which will in happier times be advantageously used.

One of the most distressing factors in the present situation to those who are really interested in international friendship, understanding, and cooperation is that extreme nationalism in some countries has formulated social, political, and economic programs which are driving people apart rather than bringing them together. At the same time that financial restrictions are restraining travel there is a tendency to restrict the volume of news from other countries or to determine the channels which it must follow. Without wishing in any sense to make any argument for license — for extreme license in the use of the written and spoken word is as dangerous to friendship among the peoples as are too great restrictions — I wish to express the hope that in a more stable world we may return to a more friendly examination of other cultures.

I have endeavored to point out in the remarks which I have so far made not only that real friendship between peoples
must be based on mutual knowledge and respect, but have also tried to indicate how important in the development of this mutual knowledge and respect are travel, the press, periodic literature, and serious works on social, economic, and cultural conditions. I have allowed myself to speak with a certain freedom of the progress which has been made in the United States in the use of these instruments for the promotion of international friendship, particularly as I have so often felt the injustice of the general impression which prevails that other countries know the United States better than it knows them. I would not, however, permit any such sense of injustice to my own country and its institutions to allow me to say what I have said to you this evening if it were not that I feel that this lack of proper understanding conceals in itself a great danger.

The greatness of a country is not measured by the number of its people, nor by the extent of territory which it occupies, nor the colonies it possesses. It is measured much more by the forces which are at work in that country and the direction in which they move. I would like to have you think of the United States, not as a country of extended territory and great population, but of the American people as one animated by a very lively desire to maintain friendly relations not only with its immediate neighbors, but with all countries. There is nothing which they desire from other countries which they are not willing to give. They are filled with a lively sympathy for, and to a very considerable degree understanding appreciation
of the problems and conditions which face other peoples. To this sympathy they are willing to give concrete expression in any form which does not violate the feelings or the rights of other peoples. They have this keen interest in being informed about what happens throughout the world because they are interested in their fellowmen, and this explains the large number of newspaper correspondents, writers, and American travelers abroad and the vast fund of periodic and other literature in the United States on other peoples. I would like to present to you therefore a picture of a great country, with its people having this lively and sympathetic interest in other countries and I suggest to you that such a country is a force which must be reckoned with in the world today and that in the interest of international peace it is extremely important that other countries and their peoples inform themselves accurately, objectively, and thoroughly on what is happening there, not with the idea of imitating or of adversely criticizing, but with the desire to understand, judge, and carefully weigh. I believe I may with modesty state that such a critical, objective examination can only lead to that respect for our institutions which we have learned to have for those in so many other countries.

I venture now to say a few words concerning a matter which I believe is of primary importance in the establishment and maintenance of international friendships, and that is the development in every possible way of the widest cultural relations between states. A mutual knowledge between states of the respective cultures of their peoples is not only necessary as a basis of friendship, but an objective, sympathetic, appreciation of the best there is in these cultures is essential to
placing these friendships on a durable basis. Much, for example, has been said of the community of interests between the Anglo-Saxon peoples and it is too generally assumed that this is based on a purely racial affinity. This, I believe, is a great error for while the common origin of at least the majority of the population of the United States with that of the English people has unquestionably something to do with Anglo-American friendship, that friendship is in reality based on a community of ideas and ideals which finds expression in a more or less common outlook on life and its major problems. In spite of the difficulties which have from time to time arisen between the English and the American people, an amicable solution has always been found during now more than a century. The English and the Americans, while they do not always agree with each other, and while they are often very severely critical of each other do understand each other and have a mutual respect for each other, based on that understanding. The common language and common origin have undoubtedly facilitated this friendship, but it would nevertheless be disturbed if in the one or the other there should arise basic cultural divergencies.

By the foregoing I do not mean to infer that this affinity for uniformity of cultural attitudes is necessary to international friendships, but I do wish to assert that a knowledge of the respective cultures is essential to understanding and friendship. If that understanding leads to appreciation and respect a friendly attitude is inevitable in spite of many basic differences.
How to bring about the cultural exchanges between countries which would lead to this understanding is one of the principal problems which faces those interested in peace and orderly development of international relationships. It is impossible to even begin in the time which is at my disposal, in any way to detail the nature which these cultural exchanges may take. I shall not be able to speak of that exchange of books, periodicals, artists, professors, scientists, and publicists which may be so helpful in that connection, but must content myself with emphasizing a negative factor which in the last few years has become so apparent, so powerful, and so destructive in its consequences. This factor is the extremely nationalistic movement, with the autarchic form which it has taken for self-sufficiency in the economic field which has had its very definite effect on the cultural relations between states. Just as in certain states the Government considers the formation of the national culture as a matter of its primary concern as an instrument of the state and therefore forms that national culture inexorably along certain lines laid down by a small group of people to serve political ends, so the same spirit has impelled such governments to exclude all cultural elements from the national scheme which have in any sense a foreign tinge.

I think we must return to the unchangeable and still unquestionable conception of true culture which involves an objective appreciation of the best which the national life of every people has produced in the past and is producing, and
the incorporation of it into the life of the country. The cultural life of a nation is never static unless that nation be dead. True culture is a plant which is constantly producing new blooms. No nation therefore which is alive and which hopes to remain virile can shut itself off from its neighbors nor maintain its virility merely through an attitude of superiority.

Again in this respect I am happy to be able to tell you, my Austrian friends, that in my country, as I believe in most countries of the world, the manner in which the Austrian people have maintained their cultural traditions in most difficult years has aroused deep respect. During an address which I had the pleasure of making early this year before the American Society of International Law, in Washington I made certain statements with respect to Austria which I take the liberty of quoting.

Among other things I said:

"The dismemberment of the Empire by the post-war treaties put an end to the political domination of Vienna, and Prague, Budapest, Belgrade and other capitals have assumed a new importance, but the Austrian cultural tradition has remained unbroken and Vienna rests a principal intellectual and cultural center of Europe. That during the post-war years in which the new and little Austria had to adjust her economic life to her new frontiers, and that during a good part of that period the adjustment was made more difficult by political pressure and a general European depression, and that she succeeded not only in maintaining her cultural tradition but in deepening and strengthening it, is one of the interesting and encouraging features of modern Europe.

"The Vienna opera remains perhaps the finest in Europe. The great orchestras are intact."
The Salzburg Festivals are now the finest of their kind in the world. The Burg Theatre is perhaps a unique theatre which has tenaciously held to its high traditions. The Universities are more frequented than ever. Her public monuments are kept in good repair. Her museums are being expanded, rearranged, and made more accessible and full of meaning to the masses. The Vienna medical faculty and her philosophers and scholars draw visitors and students from all over the world.

"In the spirit of true culture Vienna has in a period when narrow nationalism has gained so much ground, kept her doors open to artists, scholars, scientists, and ideas. No less than four of the leading artists of the State Opera this last season were Americans. The Burg Theater on its slender financial resources did not hesitate to give Maxwell Anderson's QUEEN ELIZABETH, a production which from every point of view was an artistic achievement of first order. An American opera reached its première at the VOLKSPER. No less than eight modern American plays were produced on the Vienna stage this past season. The most enthusiastic reception given by the public to musicians this year, I may remark, was accorded to some of the many foreign artists who can be heard every day in Vienna.

"The tenacity with which Austria has held on to what it deemed precious of its past must and has commanded respect, especially among those who have realized the financial sacrifices involved. Even such institutions as the Vienna boy choristers, founded six years after the discovery of America, by Maximilian, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and ruler of Austria, have not been allowed to suffer. The Spanish Riding School, founded by Maria Theresa in the middle of the 18th century, continues to function. The famous Consular Academy, founded by Maria Theresa for the training of the diplomats of the old Empire, no longer necessary for the new Austria and much too expensive to function as such, has been turned into an international training school for diplomats which is frequented by young men from all over Europe and from our own country.

"It is perhaps, however, in the economic field that the new Austria presents the greatest surprises. It was customary up to a few years ago
even for canonists to say that Austria could not possibly live within the borders assigned her by the peace treaties - at least not without constant help from her neighbors and Europe as a whole. The experience of the years immediately following the peace treaties seemed to show that this opinion so generally held, and shared to a considerable degree in Austria itself, was substantiated. But now in more recent years she has shown that not only is she able to live within these borders, but gives promise in more normal times and with more normal relations with her neighbors to prosper.

"The private financial structure has been placed on a sound basis. This involved heavy sacrifices for the people of Austria and for many other countries. The results, however, have been noticeable and beneficial to a degree that Austria was again beginning to offer interest to foreign capital. The public finances are subject to a certain control by the financial committee of the League of Nations, which has a resident representative in Austria. Although the infant years of the new Austria were years of severe and drastic readjustment during which the entire economy of the country had to be contracted from an empire basis, and during which economic depression harassed all Europe, and political problems assumed great importance within the country and at times caused additional financial burdens, the budget in recent years has been brought closely to balance. The position of the public finances today is considered by European experts quite sound and it is well known that the Austrian schilling is considered as one of the most stable and sound currencies in Europe.

"Certainly during the last two years the financial, economic and general situation in Austria has slowly but steadily improved. I can unfortunately do no more than state the fact here, for the factors and conditions which have brought about this so unexpected result are so numerous and require so much background that time does not permit any discussion.

"The public credit of Austria has as a consequence of this quite sound financial policy acquired more strength. In spite of the advice given to her government from certain quarters within and without the country to follow the example of so many other countries in repudiating or ceasing payment on her internal and foreign obligations, Austria has continued to meet service on all her foreign obligations.
except those from which she has been exempted for the time being. I shall always remember with what pride Chancellor Dollfuss one day told me that Austria would continue to meet her obligations as long as she possibly could, and it was clear from his tone that he meant what he said. He remarked that when Austria's friends were so loyally and strongly supporting her in the hard struggle to build up her new life and to maintain her independence, simple loyalty demanded that she meet her obligations which included service on her debts."

I have quoted the foregoing from the address which I had the privilege of making before that distinguished body of Americans, for I feel that no public testimony can adequately present the really splendid struggle which the Austrian people have so successfully come through. It would have been easy and in many ways very human to seek temporary advantage under pressure of circumstances through the exclusion of foreign artists and foreign art, and in other similar ways to endeavor to give a false pride and a false stimulation to the Austrian people in difficult times by cultivating that extreme nationalism which has been so conveniently used in some countries. No such expedient, however, has been resorted to here and I think to this it is largely due that Austria is coming out of a difficult period sounder in her national and cultural life and has kept the respect of her neighbors and friends everywhere. This has been no small achievement and in this respect Austria has been a most useful example.

A real virile culture in any country must have as one of its fundamental attributes a friendly, receptive, and sympathetic attitude towards all other cultures and any assumption of
superiority and condescension can only lead first to stagnation and then to real decay. I am happy to say that in my own country too we have this receptive attitude towards the cultures of other countries and we do not hesitate to adopt as our own the best that we find elsewhere. I hope that our two countries may continue to remain in the vanguard of those maintaining this true cultural attitude which is a sign of virile and progressive nations.

Although I realize that I am talking to a group of persons whose interest in international relationships is serious, I must not because of that abuse too much of your patience and time. I know that you are not merely interested in fine words and lip service to the idea of international understanding and that you realize that the establishment of friendly relations between states is something painfully arrived at and is something which requires very concrete and persistent effort. I have therefore endeavored this evening to emphasize what I believe to be this fundamental importance of mutual knowledge and respect as well as to point out a few concrete ways through which this mutual knowledge may be improved by travel, the press, and the printed and spoken word generally. I have further endeavored to show that true culture is liberal in its receptivity and in its practice as well as in its willingness and even avidity to seize the best from whom and wherever it may come.

If I could impose further on your patience I would like to show how important a part the museums in different countries may play in strengthening the cultural and friendly
ties between states. In recent years much has been done in Austria and in the United States in making the museums more useful to the people. Instead of being made mere repositories of the treasures of the past and a record of cultures which are behind us, real progress has been made in making them very lively institutions interpreting the dead past into the living present and often making the best in the past live for us in the present.

I am happy to say that in Austria very considerable progress has been made in this direction. Some of your museums have been rearranged in such a way as to make their treasures and exhibits more accessible, as well as more understandable, to the greater mass of the people. It is all the more credit to your country that this has been done, like other things, in a difficult period when the financial sacrifices were serious.

That it should be attempted, however, and so successfully carried through is, I venture to say, one of the further real indications of the cultural virility of your country and people.

In my country the movement in this direction has perhaps been even wider and more far-reaching. I would recommend to your reading an article which has appeared in a recent issue of the NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW - one of those serious periodicals to which I have referred this evening - entitled "The Museum Doffs its High Hat". In this article you will find a striking story of the concrete ways in which the museums in the United States, from the world known Metropolitan in New York to those in the smaller towns, have made themselves accessible, and more understandable and useful to an ever widening
number of our people. Through the rearrangement of the museums, through the classes and lectures which have been arranged in them and under their supervision, and through the facilities which are offered to students, the Metropolitan and other museums are influencing practically every aspect of American life. I quote from the article, "They have influenced the household furniture, the packages on the kitchen shelves, the draperies on the windows, the paper on the walls, and the clothing we wear."

The daily classes in the museums have become a fixture through which the permanent exhibits are made alive. The lectures which are held in the museums by the curators of the different departments and by properly qualified persons who are invited to assist in this work have become as much a part of the museum as the exhibits themselves. The museum is becoming a university, a technical school, and an institute of applied arts.

By this modern use of the museum, which I may say is a recent development, the daily life and environment of the American people have already been much influenced. I again quote from the article under reference the closing sentence: "It is an important work because in our daily lives - eating, dressing, working, or seeking amusement - art, good or bad, is always with us. For most of us, most of the time, it is bad art, but the museums in cooperation with the designers and manufacturers are constantly making our civilization less ugly. And that is almost as essential as making it less corrupt and unjust."
There is one more feature of this concrete need of the use of the museums to which I believe I can usefully refer this evening. There cannot be a Kunsthistorische Museum or a Metropolitan in every city, and their treasures and their potentialities of usefulness in the cultural life of the country must necessarily be confined to a comparatively restricted part of the population under present conditions. In the United States therefore, being a very practical people, a very definite effort is being made to bring the museums and their treasures and their stimulating cultural values to a larger number of people. To do this lantern slides are being made, as well as moving pictures in the museums which may be used by competent lecturers in other cities in bringing the cultural and stimulating value of the great museums to even the smallest village. It occurs to me that this initiative is worthy of emulation in other countries besides my own. I venture to see in this practice a much wider application still. In the true spirit of culture there is no reason why, for example, an interchange of lantern slides and films should not be made between the Kunsthistorische Museum in Vienna and the Metropolitan in New York. I leave to your own imagination the wide sphere of usefulness open to the museums through the only one aspect of concrete cultural cooperation.

It is because in your country and in mine these liberal cultural traditions are being maintained and because in these difficult times of economic and political stress the cultural virility of our people is making itself felt in such
concrete ways that I think we have reason to be optimistic with respect to the future. I am not one of those who believe that because of the dark days which we have been and are living through this world is a worse one than that into which I was born. I am convinced that I came into a better world than my father. I know that I today live in a better world than I knew in my youth. I will not let go of that optimism which I see so fully justified by so many concrete evidences of viril culture expressing themselves in movements tending to make life fuller and freer. I do not hide from myself the difficulties of the day, but I would like to see all in its proper perspective and it gives me courage. I think it should give us all courage to go forward in that work which you, as good Austrians, are endeavoring to do through this Bund für Internationale Freundschaftsbeziehungen for the furtherance of mutual understanding between peoples as the surest preparation for peace and friendly cooperation.