

*Inter-Parliamentary Union*

impressed the delegates and put this country in its proper context.

In the original draft resolution on the reunification of families, the following was the wording:

Recognizing the desirability of promoting increased human contacts,

Calls upon the parliaments of all participating states to urge their governments to begin multilateral discussions toward the conclusion of an international declaration providing for the progressive elimination by all states of obstacles on members of families seeking to reunite across national borders.

Then, as a result of negotiation, the Final Act read as follows:

Carrying out, in a humanitarian spirit, negotiations at the governmental level with a view to eliminating the problems posed by the separation of members of families seeking to be reunited;

As the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) has said, we do not have to make excuses for, or qualify our interest in, reunification of families because it is a problem that directly concerns Canada, and it is part of our foreign policy on which we have been consistent and united ever since I have been a Member of Parliament.

It is of interest to note that the Swiss delegate, Mr. Karl Ketterer, had a similar resolution, actually a little more specific than ours. However, in an arena where you are trying to moderate differences and reach agreement, Mr. Ketterer of the Swiss delegation deferred to our resolution, and we carried the ball, so to speak, on this particular subject, with his support and co-operation and the support and co-operation of many other delegates.

Then, a sort of basket draft resolution was brought in by the French delegation under Senator Leon Jozeau-Marigne. The French delegate managed to bring in a draft which covered most of the points with which other delegates wanted to deal, so we accepted it as our working paper and it really worked out quite well. As we met in committee and then in drafting committee, there was interesting interplay between peoples of different social and economic philosophies. For example, words that are perfectly obvious to us might be considered provocative to somebody else.

One of the Polish delegates, Madame Teresa Skubala, was concerned about multilateral discussions on the subject covered by our resolution and objected to the wording in some way. But we were dealing with many things on a multilateral basis, and as we went into the drafting committee the Polish delegate did not question the matter any more. However, the Russian delegate, Mr. Tchaikowski—who looked more like Shostakovitch but his name was Tchaikowski—took an interest in the matter, and having myself been to the Soviet Union and talked about the question of reunification, I was very much impressed by the co-operative attitude he took. We ended up with the resolution contained in the Final Act.

The committee dealt with many more things, such as education, science, culture, information, and in a more general way with further contact and exchanges between people. Those who are brought up in a society like ours cannot over-emphasize the importance of these. We discussed the development of tourist and professional exchanges, especially among young people, a matter of common interest to all nations. In the field of education

we discussed the forecasting of needs on a European-wide basis. Although in this context it might be somewhat different for those living on the continent of Europe, this was a matter of interest to us. We discussed working together in order to co-operate in forecasting educational needs, a job that we could do much better, I think, in this country.

Then, we discussed the study of new techniques, as well as what was termed "life-long education". I guess all of life is an education, but we did not quite understand this term. To us it means continuing education and retraining. In the society in which we live we consider not only retraining but having several careers in one lifetime. The Europeans think along the same lines. Although we were struck by the term "life-long education", it is a term commonly accepted over there. We then talked about equivalence of diplomas and degrees, a matter of serious concern to us and of even greater concern to a continent the size of Europe comprising so many countries where the interchange of personnel is so great.

Then, there was another resolution dealing with the revision of school textbooks, particularly those on history and geography, in order to present objectively the contribution of the various European national cultures to universal culture and not impair the dignity of other peoples. Although I think it would be very difficult to come to a final agreement on this, there was recognition given to the problem and the desire was expressed that we overcome it.

Other matters dealt with were twinning among educational institutions, and exchange programs for teachers and students. In the field of science we discussed co-operation in basic and applied research, long-range planning, a network of scientific co-operation among participating countries, the stimulation of joint research projects and so on. That is the sort of thing we can get a great deal of value from in such interchanges, particularly a country like Canada which too often is so largely dependent upon one other country. I think there is much to be gained from participating in a conference of this sort and continuing as a member of the European community in this sense.

We also discussed culture and the development of exchanges. The words "exchanges" and "co-operation" kept cropping up in each of these resolutions. We discussed the development of various European cultures, which reminded me very much of the discussions that we in this House have had among ourselves on the subject of multiculturalism.

Then, we considered co-operation in the field of the cultural development of foreign minorities resulting from migratory movements, and support for the principle of cultural equality for these minorities by appropriate national legislation. This is a problem of which I was really unaware. Certainly, it is a major problem in Europe where there are so many massive movements of workers from one country to another. They are there temporarily as migratory workers, and they want to maintain their culture, their dignity and respect. In many cases citizens of one country that is less developed go to another country that is far more developed, either for employment or for training, and their rights have not been recognized and they have not been treated with the dignity they