

says it is, then it justifies proper debate and discussion in this House. The refusal of the government to do this has compelled us to bring about this debate. The problems which we envisage certainly have been brought to hand by what we have seen today. On the government side there has not been one speech of substance.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Baldwin:** I regret having to include the right hon. gentleman in that. There has been nothing to explain, justify and rationalize not only the protocol but the accompanying statements. Let us make sure that before we throw aside old friends, old agreements and old alliances we know where we are going. I suggest to the right hon. gentleman that if he has not already done so, he should read "Pilgrim's Progress."

**Mr. Ray Perrault (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, all of us listened with a great deal of interest to the speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) a few minutes ago. In the view of most of us, he demonstrated beyond any argument the present and potential value of the arrangement signed the other day with Russia. He demonstrated beyond question the fact that there is no basis at all for the proposal contained in the resolution under discussion that the protocol should be brought before the House for consideration and decision.

Precedent after precedent has been cited in the House this afternoon by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), by other members and latterly by the Prime Minister who indicated that the procedure followed was perfectly in order and consistent with the action of this and other governments. Beyond that, however, I think it is most disturbing that we have heard such narrow, petty criticism of what can only be regarded as an important piece of progress in the development of Canada in respect of its external relations policy. A few moments ago we heard the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), the House leader of his party.

**Mr. Greene:** He used to be a big man.

**Mr. Perrault:** Did he comment on the announcement of the increased Canadian wheat sales? There wasn't even adequate recognition of the sales. There is a complete ignoring of this important fact and just a recitation of the arguments resurrected from the cold war. I believe it is a disappointing type of treatment from a man in his position. Shortly before that we heard from the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) who formerly was granted the great privilege of leading the government of this country. Yes, other Privy Counsellors have journeyed to Russia at other times and have expressed their deep pleasure in the warmth of the Russian reception. The right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert played a different tune on his balalaika a few years ago. The *Toronto Star* of October 17, 1969, states:

Former Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker has a dream and he hopes the Russians will help make it come true.

#### *U.S.S.R.-Canada Protocol*

The report continues:

Diefenbaker said later that they agreed that Canada and the U.S.S.R. should co-operate in a scientific exchange program aimed at developing the Arctic areas.

In another article Mr. Diefenbaker is reported to have said that the meeting could not possibly have been more cordial and friendly. In the *Toronto Star* of October 14, 1969, we find these words:

Former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker checked into the room used by Lenin in Moscow's National Hotel today and prepared for a meeting with Dimitry Polyanski, deputy premier of the Soviet Union.

When he was asked about the arrangements made for him, he said he was obviously pleased. He said he was given the ornately furnished hotel room with the balcony from which Lenin addressed the revolutionaries in 1917. It must have been a great experience. The *Toronto Star* goes on to say:

Occasionally he talks mysteriously to the walls in his room of honour in the National Hotel where Lenin lived and from which he addressed the revolutionary hordes in 1917. The RCMP warned Diefenbaker before he left Ottawa that his room would probably be bugged.

Apparently he must have been talking to the microphone on that occasion. But when the former Prime Minister of this country was in Russia he talked in terms of the necessity of co-operation between our two great countries. He insisted that there was a place for Canada to play a very important role. He talked in terms of the value of Canada's efforts to bring about a rapprochement between the United States and the Soviet Union. This is also from the *Toronto Star* of October 14, 1969:

He seemed to startle the Intourist guides by quoting former British Prime Minister Lloyd George to them. I remember George said 'That God chooses small nations to carry the sweetest wine of democracy to the world.'

Perhaps at least here we are brewing a batch of wine which may bring good results. Possibly there are some who in this debate would like to perpetuate the dreary era of the cold war and who cannot conceive that the world can change and that conditions can change. There are those in this House with dark and lingering fears in their minds that any time Canada achieves an agreement of any kind, that agreement represents a so-called sell-out or betrayal of Canada's interests and that somehow or another Canadians are unable to negotiate any international agreement which will confer benefits on this nation.

• (4:20 p.m.)

Yet there are other, enlightened members of this assembly who know all too well that this is not 1947, 1957 or even 1967—it is 1971 when throughout the world a certitude exists that unless we open more doors between nations we risk not only a military cataclysm but ecological and environmental disaster. It is to the credit of this government that it is a government willing to work with other nations, willing to undertake initiatives and willing to assist in the resolution of internation-