

Marx, and generally known as the Marxian philosophy. Marx was an atheist. He believed that a human society could be created and organized by the state upon a wholly materialistic basis so as to diffuse a much greater measure of happiness and prosperity among all the people. From that century-old concept have grown present-day ideas about the regulation of mankind. It is not without significance that the Marxian philosophy taught that Christianity was a great barrier to progress, so that today a large part of the efforts of those who believe in communism is directed to the destruction of all the representative symbols of the Christian faith. We have seen that happen in Eastern Europe and among other nations where this new ideology has seized upon the imagination of the people; we have seen it in a small and miserable form even in our own country.

Everyone who has lived in a democratic society will agree that the individual citizen's richest boon is his personal freedom and liberty to follow whatever avocation or labour he desires, to read what he wishes, to speak his mind where he wishes, and above all, to worship his Maker in whatever form and manner he chooses. These are the priceless privileges of a human democratic society that are being challenged today. The great tragedy in Russia and her satellite countries today is not that there is a group of dictators in the Kremlin, but that the youths of these countries are being indoctrinated in communistic ideals. In every school in Russia the plastic mind of the youth is being trained, turned and twisted in a certain direction. If the sense of freedom and progress is stricken from the minds of the young people it will not be long—even twenty-five years passes quickly—before they will have lost the desire for anything other than what they were accustomed to in their growing years. The great challenge that rests upon western civilization today is to keep the flame of freedom and liberty burning in its own countries and, as far as possible, in other countries as well. We must cherish and develop our freedom and liberty. This is our surest bulwark for the future.

But this is not going to be an easy struggle. I myself believe that the world is only on the eve of this great struggle, and that it will not be settled in our day. China's teeming millions are now being overrun by the communist philosophy, and while many people hope that Chinese communists will adopt a somewhat different philosophy from the so-called Russian communists, the basic idea behind both is the same. We delude and deceive ourselves if we do not realize that this communist fermentation is rapidly taking place in the Far East, and that sooner or

later we may have to meet it. We must enter this pact with sober minds, realizing that it opens the gateway to events that cannot be foreseen at the moment. Nevertheless, there is nothing else for Canada to do but support this treaty.

I am delighted to see the unanimity of desire of the freedom-loving nations throughout the world to put their houses in order, so that they can stand up against an armed attack, if it should come. Above all we must encourage the spirit of freedom and liberty in our own country and in other lands, and be jealous of anything that undermines that spirit. The chief desire today, whether it be in the field of economics, politics or otherwise, is for security. But security without freedom is an empty shell. When we sign this pact, which will bring us many responsibilities, let us not forget that we are possibly at the beginning of great adventures. Let us not forget either that the signing of a pact is not the only way to preserve within our own country those principles of freedom and liberty without which life is not worth while, and upon which our whole Christian western civilization has been built.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Honourable senators, I should like to follow the suggestion of the leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), that we register our approval by a standing vote.

The motion was carried unanimously on a standing vote.

PRIVATE BILL

REFUND OF PARLIAMENTARY FEES

Hon. Mr. Beaubien (for Hon. Mr. Howard) moved:

That the parliamentary fees paid upon the Bill I-7, intituled: An Act to incorporate the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada, be refunded to Mr. Howard S. Ross, K.C., the solicitor for the petitioners, less printing and translation costs.

The motion was agreed to.

COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS CONFERENCE

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson: Honourable senators, tomorrow I should like to table the official statement with respect to an epoch-making conference, the gathering of prime ministers at London, England, which dealt with the new status of members of the Commonwealth. At the same time I should like to give honourable senators an opportunity to say a word of welcome to the very distinguished group of Commonwealth statesmen who are in Ottawa at the present time.