

ments, we at this time must not become overly optimistic or overly hopeful that the millennium has been attained in international affairs. We hope for it and we can only look forward with anticipation, but we have to realize that in the last few months the U.S.S.R. has been increasing its military strength. Had I the time, I would give particulars in this regard. It is known, however, that they are increasing the number of sites for the launching of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

What is being done is contrary to every representation that is being made today by the leaders of the U.S.S.R. that they have indeed changed their view. Is this another detour on their part in order to lull us in the western world into a false sense of security, or does it indeed represent an about-turn on the part of the Kremlin to the end that peace in our time will be assured?

I followed the trip of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) with a great deal of interest. I read the accounts of some of the pressmen which led me to believe that only a Messianic arrival could possibly equal the effect of the visitation of the Prime Minister. I must conclude that two or three of those pressmen will not be ruled out for an early appointment to the other place, a place of rest. Today, in the members present on the government side of the House I can see the brightness in some of their eyes as they look forward in the next few days to the opportunity that has been provided by the passing of the legislation on government reorganization. They can see themselves in the position of being just outside the precincts of greatness in the very near future.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: The Prime Minister is going to be here this afternoon. While my first name is John, and I am a Baptist, I will not go further in this regard.

I have been interested, as has the hon. member for Etobicoke, through the years in bringing about relationships between our country and other countries. He was kind enough—and I appreciate that fact—to refer to the agreement of 1961 made during the period of my administration. I appreciate his having done so. I have been tremendously interested in those who today look into the north and see its potentialities but who did not see them in 1957 and 1958. Some who today sit opposite used to ridicule the views that I was expressing about the future of and the need for action in the north. Indeed, the Right Hon. L. B. Pearson said that I had in mind the building of roads and railroads from igloo to igloo.

• (3:10 p.m.)

That "heresy" on the part of the Conservative party in 1957 and 1958 carried into effect to a degree that is only today being realized and has become the cornerstone of the present government. Now they are suddenly realizing the needs of the north and, as the hon. member for Etobicoke said, the need for the fullest co-operation between our country and the U.S.S.R. in reference to the development of the north.

I was rather surprised at the Prime Minister's statement concerning northern cities. He saw cities that no

U.S.S.R.-Canada Protocol

one else from the western world had seen, cities far in the north. In one of his moments of sophisticated musing he stated that he could see in northern Canada cities of 100,000 population. I wondered where they would be, and a few days later he cleared this up: he said he was not thinking further north than Mont Tremblant. This just shows the effect, even on a person like the Prime Minister, of the generous hospitality which was extended to him. I can speak of this, having been a recipient of that hospitality—of course, to a much lesser degree and unaccompanied by an entourage—two years ago when I was received by members of the Presidium. I was shown, not what they wanted to show me but what I wanted to see, particularly in the Ukraine and around Moscow.

I have read the communiqué in detail. It is a massive document. But what does it say? I am not here to argue the question as to whether protocols are to receive consideration by Parliament, but I do say that the means taken by my hon. friend to bring this matter before the House were the only way in which we could possibly get a discussion on the subject of what happened in the U.S.S.R.

Mackenzie King, in the days when he was minister of external affairs, did not want anyone to look into those matters; Parliament had no right to discuss them. I recall when he came back, having met Hitler in 1938, and the general feeling that he expressed, "There will be no war. I met Hitler. We talked together intimately and frankly and I am convinced he is a man of peace." Even Mr. King, who had extraterrestrial powers of communication, was not able to see through the intricacies of the mind of Hitler when as he chose to pretend, as he did to Chamberlain, that what he was endeavouring to do was bring about a new world of peace.

So far as the contents of the protocol are concerned, I have no criticism of it. The words of the protocol represent a viewpoint that will be generally acceptable. But, Mr. Speaker, I have seen people before who signed agreements but who did not read between the lines. What the Prime Minister said can be interpreted. What has particularly shocked me, although viewing with approval many of the things that took place, are some of the expressions of the Prime Minister in the U.S.S.R. which have placed Canada in a position that is completely at variance with the attitude of Canadians. I refer to some of the interviews he gave. I do not have them here in detail, but I picked up a few coming into the chamber.

I ask you, Sir: Have we in Canada forgotten that our two closest neighbours are the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A.? I have disagreed strongly with the United States of America when it has interfered with Canadian policies—but have we forgotten that if it were not for the United States of America, that if the U.S.S.R. were in the same position as the U.S., geographically speaking, you and I, Mr. Speaker, would not be here? Some of the statements made by the Prime Minister in the U.S.S.R. will become part and parcel of the propaganda used by Communists all over the world. Some of the words he uttered are unbelievable to me. To the men of the Kremlin he pointed out "the danger to Canada's national identity from