

exchange in some developing countries are very great. They were aired.

Generally speaking, the people who participated in this debate were concerned with providing a better material basis in all the Commonwealth countries for what is generally described as the "good life"—the material basis on which an intellectual, cultural and moral life could be established in a more effective way.

The focus was on hard facts, on acute problems, many so acute as to encourage a restiveness bordering on desperation on the part of some of the participants. I do not exaggerate the urgency of providing help of all kinds in the "Third World." That urgency, honourable senators, is now, and it will continue for a generation or perhaps more.

What is surprising is the willingness of its spokesmen to attack the problem with reason, with responsibility and with moderation.

It is impossible, of course, to review the full spectrum of the discussions. These may have been summed up by His Excellency the Governor General, Sir Solomon Hochoy, at the opening session, and taken up with seriousness and without recrimination by the delegates. I should like to quote some phrases from what he said on that occasion:

You meet in a season which can be described as at one and the same time promising, perplexing and disappointing. Promising by reason of the incredible advances which have been made over the recent past years in science and technology... There is always the question mark whether that better life will pervade the entire globe and will benefit all humanity. Perhaps it might be correct to say that one can no longer speak of anything in absolute terms, except the transient nature of man's life on earth.

Perplexing by reason of the manifestations which are almost near universal, provide discontent, dissatisfaction... to threaten established law and order. And ... a strange concept of freedom which seems to disregard the freedom of one's neighbour—

Disappointing... that... it is not yet possible for the comity of nations to evolve an accepted formula to ensure world peace. There is too much of the influence of considerations for material gain and national call at the expense of humanitarian principle.

That discrimination at all levels can be found and regarded as commonplace; ... social justice, which is the cornerstone of enlightened human progress, is more preached than practiced; ... in today's modern world, where we boast of a cultural civilization, poverty still walks hand in hand with opulence... that these are matters of deep concern to you is evidenced by your agenda,—

Honourable senators, may I conclude by saying that Trinidad is a beautiful place. By day the sun is brilliant and hot in a clear sky. The nights are soft. Everywhere is the great sea with its snug inlets and its vast blue waters. It is typically tropical, bountifully fertile. Everywhere it is green—verdant green. It is not a prairie. There are ranges of mountains like Canada's Laurentians, lending variety and beauty to the landscape.

There is poverty in Trinidad and Tobago: widespread poverty; but there is, I think, no famine. There is no hunger. And there are fine prospects. Prospects of a better life flow from the pride of these people in their relatively new independence, their determination to develop, their emphasis on training the new generation for the tasks which lie ahead. Their people are cultured and their culture is flowering, in music, in the arts and in athletics. They are a gentle people: gentle in speech and gentle in action; but they are determined. I feel they will succeed in their national aspirations.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Bélisle, debate adjourned.

POVERTY

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. David A. Croll rose pursuant to notice:

That a Special Committee of the Senate be appointed to investigate and report upon all aspects of poverty in Canada, whether urban, rural, regional or otherwise; to define and elucidate the problem of poverty in Canada, and to recommend appropriate action to ensure the establishment of a more effective structure of remedial measures;

That the committee have power to engage the services of such counsel, staff and technical advisors as may be necessary for the purpose of the inquiry;

That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to