

Many of them have since come back to Canada sadly disillusioned, but it should not have been necessary for them to travel to Europe to learn of the advantages of life in Canada.

We know that in Canada, there are Communists at work, endeavouring to stir up discord and discontent. Of the 78 foreign language papers printed in Canada, no less than 19 are preaching Communism, and for those who do not understand our language these are their only source of information.

Some people suggest that the Communist party should be outlawed and their papers banned, but I do not believe that this is the answer to their challenge. If we have nothing better to offer than the Communists, then we have no excuse for opposing them; but if, as we generally believe, our system is superior, then our people, of all groups and classes, have a right to know in what ways they benefit by supporting our democratic system.

In my remarks I have been referring to the problems of those who immigrate to this country, but it must also be recognized that each year approximately a quarter of a million young people, born in Canada, come of age and accept the responsibilities of citizenship.

Does anyone believe that we are doing enough in this country, to bring to the attention of these young people the benefits that they enjoy as members of a free democratic nation, and of their responsibility to protect and defend these rights?

Unfortunately we are inclined to sit back and take for granted our present way of life, ignoring the forces that are at work to undermine our democratic system.

We accept freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of worship, as natural rights; but are inclined to forget that we only enjoy those freedoms so long as we are on guard to protect them.

I do not want to do to-day, what is so often done, and that is point out our problems and offer no solution. But the solution is not easy, and it entails rousing the national consciousness of our people, and co-ordinating training activities throughout our country.

We must be prepared to meet the Communist challenge by defeating it on its merits, by demonstrating that our democratic system is superior to the Communist programme of rule by force.

This task is being undertaken by the Canadian Citizenship Council, but it can only succeed if given whole-hearted support by our Departments of Education, our Churches, our Welfare Organizations, and I may say our Service Clubs.

I know perfectly well of the splendid work that Statarians have undertaken in many fields, and I admire you for it, but if I may make a suggestion it would be that there is still more work to be done.