

*Globe and Mail* of October 29, last Monday. I would like to read a few lines from it.

Sons of Freedom Doukhobors paraded on the main street of Hope today, singing hymns and praising the village residents...

Mrs. Fanny Storgoff, who speaks for the sect here, wept tears of gratitude during the parade. She said the march demonstrated the Freedomites' thanks to "the good people of Hope for the kind manner the Doukhobors have been accepted and treated."

She said that during the last week's crisis in Cuba the Freedomites had prayed for delivery of the people of Hope from atomic bombs and warfare.

So you see that these people are not devoid of response to acts of kindness. Perhaps we would gain more in a committee such as we now propose than the police have gained in putting large numbers of them in jail.

I would like to impress upon you that were we to discover the root causes of the Sons of Freedom discontent and reconcile these people with their neighbours, we would confer a blessing, to say the very least, on that disconsolate and homeless band of pilgrims who are now on the road to Agassiz, and it could be that these good people who responded to the kindness of the people of Hope might even include the honourable Senator Croll among those for whom they pray.

Were the committee to fail I submit we would lose little. My honourable friend from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid) was chairman of a special committee of the Senate which inquired into the traffic in narcotic drugs in Canada. The resolution to set up that committee, moved in 1955, was a resolution of the same character as that now under discussion. It was with regard to down-and-outs on the road to the grave by indulgence in narcotics. I would like to recall to the minds of honourable senators the great success which the honourable member from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid) made out of that seemingly hopeless endeavour.

I would also point out that the amendments to the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act which were made following the report of the committee embodied most of the recommendations made by the committee. I would further remind you that when that hopeless cause was dealt with here and the committee was appointed under the chairmanship of the gentleman from New Westminster I voted for the proposal, wished him well, and started him on his way, and I rejoiced with him when he returned with certain things accomplished.

I say that if we were to fail in this endeavour, we would lose little. We would at least

have made an effort and surely, honourable senators, we in this chamber have the courage at least to proffer assistance. Should we succeed we will have conferred a blessing in the first instance on the Sons of Freedom, but also we will have conferred a great blessing on the people of Canada at large and I should think that the people of British Columbia would say it with flowers.

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** They sure would.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Of course they would, and they would welcome our effort.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** British Columbia has asked for no such thing.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Maybe they had a conference with you before they decided not to ask. They have said nothing to me with regard to the matter and certainly expressed no opposition to an effort on our part.

The honourable senator from Lumsden (Hon. Mr. Pearson) said that we would cause friction by inquiring into the lives of the Doukhobors. He said the Doukhobors in Saskatchewan are excellent farmers, as sound a class of people as we have in Canada and as thoroughgoing Canadians as any of the groups that have come to this country from Europe. Well, I agree with every word he said in that regard, but who has suggested that we make an inquiry into the private lives of anybody, the Doukhobors in general, or even the Sons of Freedom in particular? Senator Croll has suggested nothing of the kind. I read in part the resolution that he moved:

—that a Special Committee of the Senate be appointed to inquire into and report upon the continuing problems presented by the Sons of Freedom...

Not the Doukhobors generally, and not to inquire into their private lives, but rather to inquire into the problem of the lawlessness of the Freedomites.

**Hon. Mr. Pearson:** Did not Senator Croll in his statement to the Senate propose an inquiry into the Doukhobors, as well as the Sons of Freedom?

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** I think my honourable friend is wrong there. Senator Croll talked all the way through about the Sons of Freedom, not the law-abiding Doukhobors, and if he spoke on something that was outside the scope of his motion he was out of order.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald (Brantford):** He is bound by the terms of the resolution.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** He stands by the resolution, but whether he does or does not, I do. I am advocating this resolution, not the speech made by anyone. It is the resolution that is before us, and it talks about inquiring