

*North Atlantic Treaty*

which gives real control of our future to Wall Street."

At a meeting held in Windsor, copies of the newspaper *Canadian Tribune*, issue of March 14, 1949, were distributed.

"Is peace treason? You have told the House of Commons that the Department of Justice is investigating the statements and policies of the Labor-Progressive Party".

"We communists do not have to answer for our patriotism. We warned the world in the thirties of the consequences of appeasing Hitler. We were right then—and we are right now when we warn Canadians that your government has sold out to the U.S. imperialists, that you have abandoned the charter of the United Nations, that you are deliberately working up a war hysteria, etc."

"I reject the charge of 'treachery' to Canada . . . I say that Canadian foreign policy must be changed if our country is to be saved from disaster."

And in another column:

"We communists will in the future as in the past defend the highest interests of our country."

When we realize that, to them, "our country" means "their country behind the iron curtain"; when we examine the stand which their leaders have taken in Italy and France, there cannot be any question in that regard.

They want Canada to keep quiet, to permit the expansion of that ideology of communist and atheistic terrorism. I know that in my province, among the people of my race and my religion, there is no wish that disasters such as those which have come to so many European countries should be repeated here, and that the situation which within former democratic countries of Europe has given rise to religious persecution which has shocked the whole civilized world should come to pass in Canada.

We want peace, but not the peace of persecution, the peace of atheism, the peace of concentration camps and the peace of imprisonment without trial.

Mr. Robert Schuman, speaking on behalf of the government of France said:

We are obtaining today what we vainly sought between the two wars: The United States, recognizing that there can be neither peace nor security for America if Europe is in danger, offer us both immediate aid in the organization of our military defence and a guarantee of assistance in case of war.

And he added:

Far from being inconsistent with the charter, the Atlantic pact is within the framework of the charter. It is the necessary complement of the charter, it serves the same cause, that of peace and security.

To all genuine Frenchmen, to those whose patriotism rises above all ideologies, he points out the following:

And is it not a well-known fact that the western allies, relying on the common victory and on a friendship born out of war, have demobilized their troops and reduced their armaments, while in Russia and the satellite countries not only has the war potential been maintained, but the troops on active service have been kept in uniform? That lack of balance between forces, which is not warranted by any exceptional circumstance, threatens security and causes anxiety. That is all the more true because these forces are shrouded in mystery and the Russians refuse to submit to any control whilst the western democracies hide neither their strength nor their armaments.

Finally, and above all, these forces are subordinated to an ideology which is avowedly bent on expansion and which has possessed since 1947, a powerful instrument, the cominform, a political manifestation of a military alliance.

We have the same mentality as our ancestors in the old country and we are aware, I feel, just as they are, of a situation which the press summarizes as follows. I now take the liberty of quoting Mr. Froissart in *L'aurore France libre*:

The pact promises nothing more than to allow us to live and die with our religious creed, under our laws, within a moral code which, at least, does not purport to make falsehood a patriotic duty, informing a family duty, and police terrorism a means of social emancipation.

Evidently, Mr. Speaker, we would consider it more satisfactory were it not necessary to sign alliances in order to ensure peace. However, we require a certain degree of security for ourselves, for our families and the families of our children. I feel we shall obtain this security only through an agreement for peace between those great nations who have the habit of respecting their undertakings and whose military and industrial strength is such that no aggressor will undertake lightly to overcome them.

The United Nations charter was enthusiastically accepted in this country. This pact devolves upon us certain moral obligations but the express obligations comprised by its terms are less formal than those in the United Nations charter.

Indeed, under the United Nations pact, we had undertaken, with the approval of this parliament and of the nation, to carry out the decisions of the security council, whenever a decision had been reached by the majority.

Under this pact, we undertake to consider any aggression against the territory of any signatory power as an aggression against ourselves, but we reserve the right to decide by ourselves, in this Canadian parliament, the form, the extent and the time of our participation in hostilities.