

*The Budget—Mr. Jelinek*

Prague is far away, that the coup happened long ago and that things are different here. Do not be so sure. Revolutionaries are always trying to repeat the last revolution, just as generals try to fight earlier battles. What happened in Czechoslovakia and other communist dominated countries is a classic example of how a communist movement which has already managed to win a dominant place in the government and trade unions by peaceful means can use its power to eliminate all potential rivals and grab total power.

As we know, these lessons were applied recently by the Marxist government of Chile, and are now being applied in Italy and Portugal. These examples are a model for the Marxist left even in countries like ours, countries we have considered as being immune from revolutionary upheavals but which are being weakened by apathy and incomprehension. Let us not be so naïve as not to heed the words of Jan Kozak, member of the Secretariat of the Communist party of Czechoslovakia. He stated that these powers, as he calls them—meaning communists—are using parliament itself for the transfer of all power into the hands of the working class. In Marxist jargon this means that there is a transfer of power to the bureaucracy of the new totalitarian state. He goes on to say that every Marxist, everyone who has read Lenin, understands that power in a society is not something to be wrangled over in every election. Power is to be found at every level of society, in trade unions and other organized pressure groups, in the control of the media and the economy, in school rooms and lecture halls. Politicians must realize this.

We, as politicians, cannot cling to the belief that rational debate in parliament and the cabinet room is enough. For, if we do, we shall find that control of the economy, control of the media, and control of the streets will pass to those who mean to destroy us. More often than not it will be the communists who want to destroy our nation.

It is even more important to know how communism can convert trade unions and new forms of workers' committees into revolutionary tools. The Communist party of Great Britain, to take an immediate example, has a membership of a mere 30,000 and is not represented in the House of Commons; but it has profited from undemocratic election procedures in trade unions and the apathy of the silent majority, and won control of fully one tenth of all key positions in major unions. The extension of the closed shop in industry and the press will help to accelerate the slide into socialist collectivism which could, in the end, result in a society identical in most respects to societies of eastern Europe. Obviously, that same slow take-over of power is taking place in this country right under our noses.

Free western countries are living in a period more dangerous than any we have witnessed since the end of the second world war. The communist world is on the march again. We are learning that although the cold war may seem like something which existed in distant history, it is a living reality to the men of the Kremlin. Detente has proved to be a one-way exchange. It means, for example, that the west endorses the status quo in eastern Europe, that Canada supplies grains to the Russians and, most recently, the granting of huge credits, with the blessing of our administration, at rates of interest only half as great

as those we must pay for our borrowings on the world market. One should also mention what has been done with regard to Cuba and other socialist countries. Detente does not mean that there is any shift in the basic aims of the Soviet bloc. It does not even mean economic concessions of real value to the western world. Certainly it does not mean any diminution in Soviet espionage and industrial subversion.

The truth of my remarks should be apparent to those who follow the comings and goings of western trade union leaders. Any genuine trade unionist in the west who has his eyes half open should be fully aware that men like Mr. Shelepin, the head of the Soviet labour scene, or Mr. Karol Hoffman, the Czech labour boss, are not trade union leaders at all, and should not be dealt with as such. They are personnel managers, responsible, in the words of the Hungarian union leader, for enforcing "work discipline and the planned distribution of labour", and for underpinning the powers of factory bosses who exercise an autocratic authority which would be envied by any western industrialist.

There is no right to strike in eastern Europe; there is no right to collective bargaining; there is no right for union members to elect their officials, who tend to be party hacks or secret policemen. People who try to behave like genuine trade unionists very simply receive the short end of the stick—a good example is the thousands of Czech trade union leaders and officials who lost their jobs after the Soviet invasion in 1968. Yet western trade union leaders have been turning up by the score to be wine and dined by agents of the police state masquerading as their eastern equivalents.

I mention this not merely because here is an example of the betrayal of social democratic principles by a number of western trade union leaders, but because the Communist world now looks on labour agitation as a prime instrument for destroying democratic societies. The Soviet ideologue, Professor Banglay, put this plainly in an article in the Moscow trade union paper *Trud*. He wrote on January 9, 1975, that, "we are waging the ideological struggle jointly with the working class in the capitalist countries". He went on to say that although Communists are ready to enter into tactical alliances with social democratic forces, "no one will compel us to compromise on questions of belief and world outlook."

In other words, the ideological battle is being fought exclusively on this side of the Iron Curtain. The communists will accept compromise in order to weaken our societies but will not allow us to interfere with the running of their own. So long as they can find western trade unionists who are prepared to hail known KGB agents as comrades, they are doing very nicely indeed. The pinnacle of success comes when they can find a western leader, such as our Prime Minister. Not only did he meet with KGB agents he invited one, Alexander Gresko, to his offices, to have his picture taken. Gresko was a Russian spy. He was deported from Great Britain in 1971 on grounds that he was a high level Russian espionage agent.

That the Prime Minister should become so friendly with a Russian spy as to have his picture taken with him for publicity reasons is beyond comprehension. Similarly I cannot understand why Canada should appear to be on