

of the Whole is undoubted, but it seems to me only rational that that stage should follow commitment to a select committee.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: If the right honourable gentleman will read May or Bourinot, or even Flint, he will find it repeated again and again that the whole House is supposed to deal with public bills.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Oh, no. What is the Private Bills Committee for, except to deal with Private Bills? Surely the Committee on Banking and Commerce is not appointed only for the purpose of dealing with Private Bills or a Railway Bill.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: The Bank Act.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: That is not a Private Bill. It would be dealt with in the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

THE SENATE

Wednesday, February 28, 1934.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE WORLD DEPRESSION AND UNREST

INQUIRY AND DISCUSSION

Hon. J. J. HUGHES rose in accordance with the following notice:

That he will call the attention of the Senate to the declarations of the Prime Minister and the right honourable Leader of the Liberal Party in regard to the probable cause or causes of the world depression, unrest and confusion and the remedy for these ills; and will enquire whether the Government contemplates taking any further steps calculated to mitigate these conditions or to ward off, as far as possible, their effects upon Canada.

He said: Honourable members, a reading of the notice standing in my name will serve as an introduction to the remarks that I intend to make.

Some time ago the Prime Minister, after reviewing general conditions, declared with emphasis that "only the grace of God can save the world"; and a little later the right honourable Leader of the Liberal Party, at the close of a reasoned speech, stated, "The principles of the Sermon on the Mount would save the world." These were not ordinary

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN.

statements; they contain much food for thought. As I see it, the fact that the leaders of both historic political parties should hold and give expression to such fundamental beliefs at this time means much for Canada, and I consider it a privilege, and perhaps a duty, to give heed to such expressions, examine their implications, and as far as practicable draw useful rules of conduct from them. Embedded in them is the Christian conception of life. We cannot help noticing, however, that the governing bodies of many nations are using their legislative, executive and judicial powers to erase, as far as possible, this conception from the minds of their people, particularly the young, and are carrying their propaganda into other countries. It would seem, therefore, to be the duty of all those who believe that civilization itself rests upon the fundamental principles of Christianity to combat this growing menace of Communism, Nazi-ism, or whatever it may be called, whenever, wherever and however it shows itself.

As I understand it, the Christian explanation of the creation, the fall and the redemption is as follows: When man was created the angels were given various ministries in his regard, and to Lucifer was given much power on this earth. When he rebelled and was expelled from heaven his relationship with God was broken, his name was changed to Satan, his nature became changed, he became wholly bad and nevermore could do any good. But all his attributes were not taken from him. He was still a spirit with great knowledge and considerable power. He wanted a kingdom; he wanted subjects, and he coveted man. He concentrated against Adam and won, and man would have been wholly and completely lost if the Second Person of the Trinity had not come to his rescue and saved him by Himself becoming man, and in His person overcoming all evil. When Our Saviour was on this earth He called Satan the Prince of this world; and Satan, knowing Him to be a man, tried to tempt Him by offering Him all the possessions he had, or once had, and over which he still exercised large control. This is one of the ways in which Satan has always tempted and still tempts men and nations, and he has nearly always met with great success. Riches, honour, glory, dominion make a strong appeal to individual pride and greed, and a still stronger appeal to national pride and greed. This appeal forms probably the subtlest and most dangerous of all temptation. Response to it may appear to the individual as the means of obtaining a reward for his personal merits, and to the nation as the pursuit of