

*The Address—Mr. Fleming*

gravity of the world crisis has not abated in those four months. It is true there has been a stabilization of the situation in Europe, due in no small part to the success of the North Atlantic pact; and we may well, sir, derive useful lessons in establishing policies with respect to other quarters of the globe from the success which has already attended that agreement among the western nations. It is true that the communists are not inactive in Europe. It is true, sir, that in those unhappy countries behind the iron curtain the persecutions are still going on, and the trials which are a travesty of justice. Nevertheless, in a broad sense stabilization has been achieved. But southeast Asia has now become the cockpit of the world and in what has been happening in China, to the extent that events there indicate that the government of that great nation and of that great peace-loving people has come under the direct influence of the Kremlin, it does represent a major catastrophe for all mankind. We wish the people of China well. We know that there were grave faults in the previous government but we do want to see the independence of China maintained. Whatever government she may choose for herself, it is vital to the peace of the world that it be under no submission to the Kremlin.

And, sir, in those countries south of China which were visited by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, we see events unfolding similar to the plan of those that we saw unfolding in Europe in recent years. Civil war, well, yes, civil war sponsored by the communists. Yes, communists never operate simply on an internal basis. Communists are always operating internationally because they take their orders from the Kremlin, and as the communists of these countries are deriving succour and support and material assistance from the communist forces to the north and the communist forces of Russia we see there, sir, a situation that is fraught with the utmost danger for the peace of all the world. Every day we find increasing evidences and naked exposure of the determination of the Kremlin to dominate the whole world. India today occupies a pivotal position in this situation that is developing in southeast Asia. It brings heart and courage to us all, I am sure, sir, to hear the kind of report that the minister brought to the house this afternoon as to the great strides that are being made by these three new partners in the commonwealth, namely, India, Pakistan and Ceylon.

The minister concluded his remarks with a summary of one or two sentences. Sir, I am going to draw this lesson from his statement and from events in that part of the world as

one has watched them in these recent months. It is the lesson that was learned in Europe not long before, that while we may deplore the necessity of building armaments, while we may deplore the necessity of colossal expenditures upon armaments, the fact remains, and is incontestable by anybody, that we in this country dare not be unprepared for any eventuality. We cannot trust communist designs either abroad or in Canada.

Now, sir, a word about certain matters that touch us directly in this house. At the outset of this new session I should like—and it is in no perfunctory way that I do it—to extend my congratulations to the hon. members for Kindersley (Mr. Larson) and Villeneuve (Mr. Dumas), who moved and seconded the motion that is under debate.

I should like to extend my hearty congratulations to the new Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Harris); and if the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) will accept them, my congratulations to him on having made such a good choice. It is a happy thought, sir, that in this portfolio two kindred subjects, immigration and citizenship, are directly united.

If I have any criticism of immigration policies in the past, it is less on account of questions of numbers or terms of admission than it is of the fact that so often, when we have admitted to our shores those who came here by choice and in accordance with the laws of this land, after they have arrived they have been ignored. They have not received at the hands of Canadians that welcome and that consideration which ought to be extended to them, when we realize that these are to be our fellow-Canadians. When they come to these shores to make their homes here now and in the future they come here as Canadians-to-be; and, sir, it is in that spirit, it seems to me, that we should at all times receive them.

In this country we want to build unity on the sure foundation of tolerance and mutual respect of people of whatever race they come. Once they come to Canada, regardless of their ethnic origin, they should be received as Canadians-to-be, and they should be welcomed as such. It is well to remember, sir, because we have increasing evidences of it on every hand every day, that we do not sacrifice anything of a truly distinctive Canadian culture by welcoming those who bring to us great cultural endowments and backgrounds from other lands. In my own city of late we have seen the flowering of grand opera on a scale which I think has not been seen in this country before, and made possible by the contributions to our culture which have been brought by those from other lands

[Mr. Fleming.]