

We must ask ourselves the question: how do we bring these Freedomites into the Canadian stream or, perhaps, draw them back into the peaceful fold of their fellow Doukhobors? I think we must first convince them that we want to help them, not destroy them. We need their full co-operation. The Doukhobors must be treated as human beings. Up to the present we have failed to persuade them to abandon their practices which we find objectionable. Brutality will not so persuade them. Yet we need a solution that is acceptable in a democratic society. It may be difficult to find a reasonable solution, but surely we cannot accept what we have done to date.

These people are Canadians like the rest of us. We are stuck with them. Perhaps an earlier attempt might have been successful in integrating them into the community, yet after sixty years the problem is still on our doorstep. Ideologically, they are not a violent group; rather, they are followers of Tolstoy and are pacifists. They look on the world as a violent place and want their children to have no part of its violence.

I repeat, we cannot resettle these people; we cannot deport them; we cannot take community action against them without subscribing to the principles of group guilt. We have too much to lose to even give consideration to anything so foreign to our nature and our system of government.

In the light of what I have indicated, the Attorney General for the Province of British Columbia has said that we must try to find a solution. It is true that the problem belonged to another age, but it is left over for us to try to solve. We just cannot pass it on. It is one of our unresolved problems. It is a challenge we can no longer ignore. This reminds me of the plaque which used to hang in President Truman's office, which said: "The buck stops here". A decision had to be made there. It could not be passed on to anybody else. I ask: to whom can the Freedomites turn?

We have here a minority, an unpopular minority, with views that appear alien to ours. But that is no reason for turning our backs on them. We cannot just throw up our hands. We have tried social, economic and remedial pressures, and they have not been enough. Still there is no reason for us to give up. They claim they are being discriminated against because of their religious views. Is that true? Should we not try to find out?

We live in a very much mixed-up world. To the south of us a great nation is straining all of its forces to bring about the integration of a minority, and more particularly educational integration. Here we have the Freedomites who resist educational integration.

I wonder whether the Freedomites constitute our only problem that needs understanding. I read a report this morning in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* of an episode that took place last Saturday at Varsity Stadium during the football game between Varsity and Queens. I might say that Queens students had no part in this—the students from that university are blameless. It appears that the Varsity students gave a negro police officer of the city of Toronto a bad time. The officer in question was a negro policewoman who was there with other police officers for the purpose of keeping order. The students kept chanting anti-negro slogans, and cheering for the racist governor of Mississippi. It is amazing how a few drinks rub off the veneer of tolerance, and expose some people for what they are. These are people who display neither learning nor understanding, and this is the type of action that reflects on our homes, on our universities and on all of us. If that is a sample of the take-over generation of tomorrow then perhaps we have many more problems than that of the Freedomites in this country.

The Freedomites appear to have a problem. Should we help solve it? We may yet, by exerting our efforts and bringing our wisdom to the table, bring these people back into the twentieth century.

Honourable senators, I am advocating their cause in this chamber because they appear to require some guidance, counsel, assistance and friendship. They are Canadians like the rest of us. We in this Senate have a special duty with respect to minorities. It is all very well to speak about taking a second sober look at legislation, but there is something else that the Senate was specially empowered to look at and that is minority rights. It must be remembered that the dominion Government brought these people to Canada under special circumstances. There is no complaint about that. We needed immigrants at the time, and there was also a great humanitarian appeal made by well-meaning people throughout the world. No one could have foreseen what would happen.

We have built prisons for these people. We have had the R.C.M.P. police the areas in which they reside. The Attorney General for the Province of British Columbia now says that he is unable to deal with the situation. Does it not fall upon our shoulders? Is it not our responsibility?

In this country we have had much experience with minorities. In the last ten years we have suddenly awakened to the needs of the Eskimos. We have shown a sincere concern and a human understanding for them, and we have taken some constructive action although much more is needed. We have done