

be made available to any honourable senators who might wish to examine the treaty. I am advised that it is in exactly the same form as the original draft approved by the Senate.

When the draft treaty was under consideration here some excellent speeches were made in support of it by honourable members who spoke after I had made a brief statement. I have not much to add to what I said at that time. There is, however, one thought that has occurred to me. Since the treaty was approved here, and indeed since the actual signing of it at Washington, there has appeared on the part of the Soviet Union a disposition to be, shall I say, less difficult with respect to problems arising in international relations. Whether this is mere coincidence or result, I cannot say, but I think that in some ways it is indicative of danger. I suppose that primarily the North Atlantic Pact resulted from fear. Had there been less difficulty in dealing with the Soviet Union and the countries that revolve within its orbit, it is questionable whether such far-reaching undertakings as are made in this treaty would have been deemed advisable by, for instance, Canada and the United States. To the extent that that is true, and as the picture of international affairs changes, we must bear in mind the effect of the continuation of the pact in all its ramifications and consequences. It is entirely possible that in the years which lie ahead the greatest danger to the countries subscribing to the North Atlantic Pact, and to other countries which think as we do, will be not from actual aggression by armed force but from the infiltration of ideologies and beliefs contrary to those which we hold. Unhappy economic conditions and circumstances provide fertile ground for the spreading of foreign ideologies and make a country most vulnerable. Such dangers are present, regardless of the maximum defence set up by the countries subscribing to the pact, and the real value of that document may be in the fact that 350,000,000 people have banded together for the furtherance of their own economic welfare, in that way strengthening their economies and removing the danger of the infiltration of foreign ideologies. The international situation may improve in the future, but if it does not the stresses and strains on our internal economy will tend to be magnified. In that event, countries must co-operate more closely than ever before in the history of the world.

Honourable senators, I commend this treaty to you for your careful consideration and unanimous approval.

Hon. John T. Haig: Honourable members, I do not intend to delay the house long. While I agree with what the honourable

leader of the government has said, I have one or two observations to make. Speaking as a Canadian citizen, I think I express the view of every member of this house when I say that this treaty is not a threat of aggression against Russia or any of her satellites. There is no thought of aggression in the mind of any Canadian who is loyal, regardless of the party to which he belongs or the section of the country in which he lives. I regret, however, that in the C.C.F. party there are certain elements, as demonstrated in the recent convention held in British Columbia, who feel that this is a pact of aggression aimed at Russia. But speaking as a member of this chamber, and for the group with which I am associated, I say that we are not in favour of war, and we have signed this agreement in the hope that it may keep war away from our shores and the shores of other countries.

I violently disapprove of young men of Canadian birth, whether of Anglo-Saxon or Latin origin, be they from Ontario, Quebec, or any part of Canada, who attend conferences like the recent meeting in Paris and deliberately tell lies about our country. Dr. Endicott, the son of a most distinguished leader in the United Church of Canada, attended the peace conference in Paris, and, according to press reports, the other day he said that Canada and the United States were preparing bases in the Northwest Territories adjacent to the four western provinces. Now, I live in one of those western provinces and I think I know what is going on; and to my mind there is not one ounce of truth in his whole statement. We are not preparing bases for war, but we are making discoveries in that frigid country that will better equip us to defend ourselves should we be called upon to meet an attack. The Department of National Defence has spent a great deal of money in that area, but the expenditure is directed towards improving conditions for the people who live there and the study of the migration of animals and birds, as well as for defence purposes. Had we not developed that area in certain respects, I doubt that today we would be able to make our contribution to the production of the atomic bomb. Certain discoveries in that field were made within the Arctic Circle.

I repeat that I have great disrespect, and even hatred, for people born in Canada or of Canadian parents—I believe Dr. Endicott was born in China—who attend conferences in other countries and lie about conditions within our own country. Some excuse might be offered for such conduct on the part of foreigners who are not familiar with and do not understand our institutions. But this