

absolutely against the cultured arrangements. They understand that it was I. Peter Verigin, who had opened up the schools in the Doukhobor colonies and this is why they have burned my house together with the schools as accordingly their belief I am working together with the Canadian government, I am very much surprised that the setting a fire to the schools had been started sometime ago and the government does not take any steps what ever in order to punish the guilty one's in this process.

Now the same party declares and there is talk amongst the people that if the children will be taught in the dwelling houses then they also will burn such houses. To my regret I must inform you that all the schools at Brilliant will be closed because there isn't a single school that is left unburned. I cannot invite the children with school teachers to use the dwelling houses with the possible danger that these houses will also be burned by "Nudes" and if the fire should happen at night time then the people that live in houses can be burned. Please take the most suitable measures that you can set at earliest convenience.

There will be about twenty or not more than thirty of such people who are living around the Community colonies. The government could have arranged for them some kind of enterprize so they can work and keep themselves by their own labour. Just at the present these people are causing only a terror on the peaceful dwellers in the Christian Community colonies. Whenever there is a meeting in the Christian Community then these "Nudes" are getting in by force and are causing disorder, very often they are beaten badly for indecent actions, but I consider this altogether unlawful. The British Columbia government should take more cultured measures for removing these people from the settlement of peaceful inhabitants. If the government will appoint an inspectorate to pick out the "Nudes" or in other words Anarchists I will give exact list of names and surnames of such people.

I beg to remain with the hope that you will take quick action on my report.

Respectfully yours,

PETER VERIGIN,
President.

I have read this letter to the House because the question it refers to is becoming quite critical in British Columbia, and eventually it will have to be dealt with by the federal authorities. It is my opinion that the question should be carefully studied by those in charge of immigration, so that these conditions may not be duplicated in any other province. All we ask is that we may have immigrants whom we can assimilate and associate with and whose children can be educated with our children. Unfortunately in these Doukhobor communities to-day there are no school facilities and the people are broken up into warring factions.

I would commend the government, especially the minister in charge of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment (Mr. Beland) for the promise made a few days ago to establish the present bonus to disabled veterans upon a permanent basis. That message has been very gratifying to our returned men throughout the whole Dominion. During the past few years these veterans have been labouring under more or less disheartening conditions, and consequently they have been in a state of unrest, not know-

ing just how they stood in respect to their cost of living pension bonus. I believe many people are more interested in the welfare of our returned men and the widows and orphans of those who died at the front than in a good many of the questions which have been discussed during the course of this debate. It appears to me that it should not have been necessary for our returned men to maintain an expensive organization for the purpose of securing what undoubtedly the country generally considers is only their just due. I trust that parliament may pass legislation that will place our veterans upon a still better basis. It would be much better to give the benefit of the doubt to the returned men, establish them on a good percentage basis as to pension and eliminate a great deal of the enormous overhead in the administration of soldiers' civil re-establishment and pensions. It is only necessary to compare the returns brought down in this parliament and in previous parliaments to see that the overhead expenditure in connection with that administration is running enormously high.

I would like to touch briefly on a question in which I believe many people throughout Canada are interested to-day, that is, expenditure covering military and naval operations. I speak particularly of military services, and as one who, I say it very humbly, had some few years' active experience during the war period. I notice that there is a reduction this year in the military expenditures of \$1,078,854.67. I am thoroughly in accord with that reduction. With all due respect to those who think differently, I feel that the time has come when there should be a change of thought and of policy regarding military expenditures and military operations. Some few years ago I was a great militarist; I thought that we could not go too far in our military expenditures. But after some four and a half years of practical experience of a varied character I am of the opposite view, and I commend this minister or any minister of any government who will proceed along the line of curtailment of military expenditure. I am thoroughly in accord with the position taken a year ago by the party at present in power that no action should be taken regarding military operations without the full consent and approval of parliament. Whatever action this government or any government of Canada may take in the future should look to the establishment of some permanent peace. I consider that the policy that we have worked on in the past has not been such as to make for permanent peace. The only way to attain that end is to take all possible steps to bring about disarmament, and speaking as I do from