

the details of the Criminal Code. Honourable senators may not now appreciate how much detailed work was done by this sub-committee, but they undoubtedly will when the Criminal Code Bill is introduced early next session. Each member of the committee contributed his best effort, but I should like to refer particularly to the chairman of the committee (Hon. Mr. Hayden) and to the honourable senators from Vancouver South (Hon. Mr. Farris) and Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck), and to the honourable leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig).

Also, I should like to express a word of appreciation of the work of the Divorce Committee. Unfortunately I was not in the house on Wednesday when the committee's final report of the session was presented. The deputy leader (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) expressed at that time the Senate's deep appreciation of the work done by the committee. I wish to add my tribute to his. I have been more grateful than I can say to the members of the Divorce Committee, and particularly to the chairman (Hon. Mr. Aseltine), for the willingness with which they performed the long and tedious job of hearing evidence in divorce cases. I wish also to mention especially the leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig), who has made his services available to the committee. In the circumstances, it would not be unreasonable if he declined to give of his time to this unpleasant task. I am sure that I speak for all members of the Senate when I say that we sincerely appreciate the conscientious work that the Divorce Committee has done in the past, and are sure that the committee will serve with equal faithfulness in the future so long as the responsibility of hearing divorce petitions rests upon the Senate.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

THE ESTIMATES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CONCURRED IN

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the report of the Standing Committee on Finance, to whom were referred the Estimates laid before parliament for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1953.

Hon. T. A. Crerar: Honourable senators, I move that this report be concurred in.

My first words after moving concurrence must be of thanks to the committee which sat through practically two months, heard quite a number of witnesses, studied a considerable amount of data, and did so with a harmony that I have never seen excelled in my parliamentary experience. Not that there were not differences of opinion, but the

approach of the committee throughout its task was on a high level of co-operation, and, as chairman, I must express my thanks to the committee members.

In dealing with this report may I at the outset make a reference to the general conditions that we find in the world today? If we take stock of political and economic conditions, we see a world that is in turmoil and confusion, and full of doubt and uncertainties as to the future. It is not necessary for me to relate to the members of this house the reasons for that state of affairs. We see the world divided into two vast camps, mutually antagonistic, not alone in the field of their ordinary relationships, but waging a great conflict of ideals, a great conflict indeed for the soul of humanity in the future. That this is due to Russian policy needs scarcely to be said. For some strange reason, the Russian mentality has seized upon the ideal of communism as a means of bolstering and strengthening throughout the world the ideas that communists represent. One can understand the philosophy of communism, even though disagreeing with it; but what we see is not so much devotion to the ideal of the communist philosophy. That has been replaced by the most naked imperialism the world has ever seen.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: And in this vast struggle that is being played upon the world stage we have seen so far only the opening phases. That Russia is building up her military power cannot be questioned. That she endeavours to dominate every country within the range of her interest, cannot be questioned either. We see the Far Eastern part of Asia in a ferment, not so much because of the propagation of the communist philosophy, but because of the endeavour to enlarge the sphere of Russian influence and power. We see India subjected to this campaign of infiltration; and the same thing is going on in the Near East, and in Europe. Indeed, it may be said that outside of the North American and the South American continents, these gigantic forces are in conflict everywhere today, and there is no visible sign that the conflict will be resolved at an early date.

We have today a war of nerves. Russia, by confusing the public opinion of the nations, by playing upon their fears and susceptibilities in every direction, is steadily endeavouring to undermine the whole concept of freedom and liberty throughout the world. That is what is happening. Now, we cannot be blind to the fact that the nature of that struggle, of the Russian attack, has a terrific impact upon the world at large. The western