

if she is so prepared, then we must set about finding a way equitably to distribute those imports among all the people. Foreign trade must be a two-way street, if we are to have in future a warless world of free men. I should like to hear from some government speaker during this debate who will tell us what the government is doing about that.

Now, while it is on my mind let me suggest to the government that it bring forward its legislative programme for this session at the earliest possible day. This group is prepared to facilitate the business of the house, just as much as any party or any group in it. We will shorten debates; we will do everything we can to help out. But we do plead with the government to bring forward at the earliest possible moment its legislative programme, so that we may see what it is. There is absolutely no sense or reason in holding back important measures until the dying days of the session.

I do not want to see a repetition of the Bretton Woods fiasco of last December. If anything of the kind should occur, I will not give any understanding or undertaking that my twelve valiants, who have so well demonstrated what thorough study and unity can do, will not keep the house sitting all summer and fall, and all winter if necessary, to get right to the bottom of whatever schemes may be hatched up to take us off our guard.

I think, too, that the government must recognize that the all-too-frequent practice of talking out private members' resolutions is the negation of the true democratic principle. Democracy needs to be revitalized and strengthened in this country, rather than to be weakened and rendered anaemic by such practices as that of "talking out" in this assembly. Private members' days should mean something. They should be valuable to the country. If some resolution is brought forward and catches the support of a majority of hon. members, then the government ought to have the courage to allow it to come to a vote. By their example in doing so they would encourage true democratic practices throughout the whole country.

For a moment or two I should like to refer to the question which is currently uppermost in the minds of all our people—this whole business of espionage. I wish first to congratulate the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) upon his determination to bring this whole sordid matter of espionage into the full light of day. Had he not done so, I believe he might have been branded as the arch criminal of this age. I want to congratulate him upon the way he handled the situation

from beginning to end. I have no criticism whatsoever of his action in that regard. I must say however that I was not at all surprised when the story broke some weeks ago. I have known something of communist activity in this country; and the Social Credit organization—and I along with it—has repeatedly warned the people about what was going on. As a result of this warning we have been called red-baiters, nazis and fascists by those who would seek to hide their own guilt by trying to smear the other fellow.

I join with the Prime Minister in expressing the fervent wish that Canada may be able to live at peace with all nations. There is nothing we want more than peaceful relations with all countries—and I am not picking out any particular one; I refer to them all. But I believe that good straight talk is sometimes necessary to clear the air. If I do a little straight talking this afternoon it is for the purpose of trying to clear the air, and to put our finger upon some of the difficulties.

I think enough has already been said about holding suspects in the case incommunicado. Serious as that is, especially from the point of view of personal freedom and human rights, there are other aspects of the case which now require most earnest consideration and with which no one yet has dealt. I should like to know how these men and women who are charged before the courts in this country got into their important positions. I should like to know too who appointed them. I should like to know who recommended them, which is a very important thing. I should like to know too if there was any investigation of their background and their past before they were given such key responsibilities as they seem to have been given. Some person or persons in the government service must be responsible for putting these people where they were and, furthermore, for retaining them there as long as they were retained. In this connection I should like to quote from a report furnished me by a former intelligence officer in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police—and I say "former." It reads:

Prior to the first conference of the united nations at San Francisco last year, Ottawa authorities were furnished with information indicating that the communist party power would be further expanded as a result of such conference. Also that after the next federal election (which has since taken place) the communists would have more strength in the Canadian government than ever before, as it was known that they were running under various colours other than their own. However, such information was obviously not acted upon, and I would say that the public is now quite capable of judging whether communist party power has increased.