

transmitting to the workers government decisions of conditions about work and pay. Piece work payment is now the normal condition in the Soviet Union. What our workers denounce as the "speed up" at the factories is glorified in the U.S.S.R. under the name of the Stakhanovite Movement. Piece work and the "speed up" are labour conditions which we regard as completely out of date.

Another example of wilful distortion which we hear from Soviet sources is about colonialism. Anyone who knows anything about the West realizes that a great transformation is taking place in the status of colonial peoples. The colonial empires of the 19th century are rapidly being transformed into free self-governing communities, and a whole new era has been opened in the relationships between industrialized nations and the economically less developed parts of the world. The communists, however, continue to talk about capitalist imperialism, at the same time masking behind the Iron Curtain one of the most vicious imperialist regimes that has ever been known in history. To Moscow, freedom in a foreign communist state can never mean freedom from Russian domination.

Still another aspect of the problems which arise in our cultural relations with the U.S.S.R. is the cynical use which is made by the leaders of the Soviet Union of well-meaning but often misguided people in other lands as instruments of their propaganda. Very often these people act from highly idealistic motives and accept uncritically the account which the Russians themselves give of conditions in their own country. The closest example we have of this sort of activity is, of course, the campaign which is now being carried on by the Canadian Peace Congress. Many of the members of this movement may be inspired by high motives, but I wonder if they ever stop to think of the full implication of the things which they are led to do. Let us take for example the recent visit to the Soviet Union of the leader of the Canadian Peace Congress, Dr. James Endicott. I have before me two excerpts from Soviet newspapers giving quotations of statements about Canada which Dr. Endicott made in Moscow during March. I will read to you these statements. They are as follows:

1. "Moscow is peace.....Across the ocean, in our Canada and America, everything is different. Instead of new apartment houses, aerodromes and military bases are built there. The headlines of the newspapers shout about war. Thousands of dirty booklets praise the future war, war looks out from the paintings of painters and from the films." (Pioneerskaya Pravda, March 31, 1950)
2. "If a Canadian invites friends to his home and if moreover he refers in a positive manner to the Soviet Union, noting, for example, that great care is taken of children in the Soviet Union, then the police have the right to declare that this is 'defence of communism' and to drive this Canadian out onto the street and seal off his apartment. He will not even be able to complain about these actions by the police in court." (Report of Press Conference published in all Moscow papers, March 9, 1950)

A man, who, professing honest motives and high ideals, goes amongst strangers and maligns his country with this kind of falsehood is beneath contempt. In a communist society he would also be beneath the ground.

The process of misrepresenting and distorting the facts within the Soviet Union is made more efficient by the systematic prevention of personal contacts across the iron curtain. It is