

*Communist Activities in Canada*

Affairs (Mr. Pearson), which I understand is a quotation from a speech made some time earlier but which, subject to any indication from him that his opinion has changed, I assume can be taken as his opinion at this time. That quotation gains special meaning in view of the statement by the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) in March of last year, that this subject was under consideration by the Department of Justice. I should like to hear the Minister of Justice (Mr. Garson) tell us exactly what consideration was given. In fact, I should like to hear the Minister of Justice tell us whether it is not a fact that an amendment to the Criminal Code was drafted, which would have had the effect of outlawing communist and similar activities in this country. Certainly I believe the house should be informed at this stage just what consideration has been given, and what the decision of the government is. I hope the government has come to the conclusion to take positive action to deal with activities of this nature.

As I have already indicated, I am not in any doubt that many of those—I most emphatically do not say all—who express concern about the danger to civil liberties from laws which would make communist or similar activities a criminal offence are sincere. I do feel that they still misconceive the real meaning of communism in its modern interpretation, and that they still misconceive the nature of the activities of these agents of the Kremlin. We are not dealing today with any vague or shadowy dialectic consideration. We are dealing today with the most terrifying brutal reality the world has ever known. Nazism and fascism fade into insignificance beside the nature and scale of this horrible and evil force that is spreading its tentacles throughout the world.

When the war ended less than five years ago, one human being out of every twelve in the world was under this vile tyranny. In these five short years 600 million more people have been brought under that form of slavery. The red tide is on the flood. At no point has it stopped or receded. Today one out of every three people in the world is under the most evil form of human subjugation that was ever designed by the tortured brains of men of evil intent. That is the reality, and the flood is still on the move. Within the past few weeks we have seen still further evidence of the mounting forces of communism: fresh pressure in India, China, Malaya, Indonesia, and indeed on the southwestern borders of Russia in Afghanistan and the surrounding states. New pressures have emerged elsewhere, in Italy and in France—yes, right here in our own country.

[Mr. Drew.]

Some people may still regard it as a minor manifestation, but this House of Commons was treated to at least one symptom of that disease within the past week. These things may seem unimportant to us, and merely the expression of a few men. But will we wake up in time? These men are not expressing a political doctrine, they are paid and financed by the Kremlin. Money does not grow on trees, and the expensive publishing and other activities of the communists in our midst require money, and plenty of it. It does not come from the workers in Canada. The real workers in Canada loathe and condemn communism as much as or more than any other people in this country. They are not the ones who are supporting any of these activities. We blandly watch activities of this sort, and regard them with an attitude of tolerant acceptance, without looking upon it as anything very serious.

It is only when one examines the sum total of all these activities, and realizes how they are spreading out into every part of the social structure of this country, that one realizes that tolerance of that kind is not tolerance but sheer insanity in the face of what is happening throughout the world today. If we really love our freedom, if we respect the memory of those who died for freedom in two world wars, the time has come for every Canadian, and particularly for those of us who collectively represent in this house all the people of Canada, to say that we will take the appropriate legislative steps so that freedom shall not be used to destroy freedom itself in the Canada that we love.

When we recognize the fact that communism now embraces in its dreadful grasp a third of the population of the whole world, we should remember that on no single occasion have the armed forces of Russia crossed a single border to carry out the actual aggression that placed other governments under communist authority. It was only after the *coup d'état* or revolution was an accomplished fact that Russian troops were welcomed as brothers in a great cause. Just think of it: the Baltic states, Roumania, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, China and now other parts of southeast Asia. All these countries came under the control of the Kremlin through fifth columns organized in exactly the same way that a fifth column is being organized in Canada right now. The fifth column in Canada, under Tim Buck and his associates, has exactly the same purpose as had the fifth columns in Czechoslovakia, in Hungary, in Bulgaria, in Roumania or in any other country now occupied by communists, including