

there a higher level of management than in either chamber? It seems to me that for members of the other place, for senators and the other appointed officials, such as judges, there should be some system of annual review and automatic adjustments.

In my capacity as a negotiator, in the same period that we are talking about here, I have seen negotiated in various industries increases from a low of about 65 per cent to a high of about 95 per cent. I think the action being taken under this bill is long overdue. The Canadian people rely on the Government to look after elected and appointed officials. I think it took courage on the part of the Government to make such a recommendation at this time, and they are to be congratulated for doing what is right. I support the legislation.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Honourable senators, difficult though it may be, when supporting the bill, to add to what has been said by the sponsor (Hon. Mr. Martin) and the honourable Senator Lawson, I move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to.

IRAN

SECOND CONGRESS OF IRAN NOVIN PARTY HELD AT TEHRAN AND TWENTY-FIVE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF PERSIAN EMPIRE

Leave having been given to revert to Inquiries:

Hon. Richard J. Stanbury rose pursuant to notice:

That he will call the attention of the Senate to his recent visit to Iran as an observer from the Parliament of Canada at the Second Congress of the Iran Novin Party, held at Tehran, Iran, 5th to 10th May, 1971, and also to the establishment of a Canadian Committee under the chairmanship of the Speaker of the Senate to assist in the celebration of the Twenty-five hundredth Anniversary of the Persian Empire.

He said: Honourable senators, some time in March I received a warm invitation from the Secretary-General of the Iran Novin Party to attend as a Canadian observer the Second Congress of the Iran Novin Party, to be held in Tehran between May 5 and 10. The invitation was accompanied by a letter from the Chargé d'Affaires of the Imperial Embassy of Iran in Ottawa, and one from the Middle East Section of our Department of External Affairs urging me to accept the invitation. It was with very little knowledge of the country or the people whom I was to visit that I accepted the invitation, and arranged to be accompanied by my wife.

As I prepared for the journey, I wanted to know more about the exact location of Iran in relation to its neighbours, and what its geographic assets and liabilities were. I wanted to know who were its people, how they had been governed, where the Iran Novin Party came from, and whether it was a legitimate instrument of democracy with which we should associate ourselves. I found out that Iran is a big country, about one and a half times larger than Ontario. I also learned that its friendly rela-

tionships with Afghanistan and Pakistan on its east boundary and with Turkey in the northwest were clouded by territorial disputes with Iraq on its west, and by somewhat delicate relationships with Russia, with whom Iran shares the shoreline of the Caspian Sea, to the north.

The people of Iran, 28 million in number, are of the Aryan race who migrated south and west from the steppes of Russia about 3,000 years ago. They are classified as Indo-Europeans and still speak the ancient Farsi tongue. There are a number of minority groups, including some Arabs in the south, some Jewish and Turkish people in the north, and some Armenians and others, but the vast majority of the people have been known throughout the western world as Persians.

We found the people and their history most interesting. From everything we read before we left Canada we had gathered the impression that, although for the past few years things had been changing, the people were terribly poor and illiterate, and the country was wracked by wars and skirmishes between the nomad tribes and anyone who might try to establish a central authority. We knew that, while there had been a long period of greatness 2,500 years ago in the days of Cyrus, Darius and Xerxes, and during some periods since, the Persian people had lived under a succession of conquerors from Alexander the Great to the Romans, the Arabs, the Mongols, the Turks, and finally the Russians, the French and the English. We thought that after this kind of history we would find the people dejected, discouraged, decimated by disease and malnutrition, and incapable of profiting from what now appeared to be a favourable turn of events. We found our impressions to be all wrong.

After a period of turmoil between the end of the Second World War and 1953, His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah Aryamehr returned from exile. In 1961 he developed a plan for what he called the "White Revolution"—"White" rather than "Red"—for bringing Iranians together instead of fragmenting them through class warfare. The 12 points of the White Revolution cover a broad range of social, economic and political advances, including an aggressive drive toward democracy. The people were invited to form political parties, the only requirement being that they adopt the philosophy and principles of the White Revolution. The Tudeh or Communist Party of the left was outlawed, as was the Landowners' Party of the right. The Shah began to pursue his most persistently-held theme—that by the end of his reign his successors would be the people of Iran.

Of the two existing political parties, the Iran Novin Party—meaning the New Iran Party—is the largest, and so far the most successful. It has taken seriously the obligation placed upon all parties by the Shah to educate the people in the way of democracy, and to act as a vehicle for the involvement of the people in the decision-making processes of government. While this was the Second Congress of the party, it was the first one of such massive proportions, comprising 4,000 delegates from every part of Iran, and more fully representative than the conventions of Canadian parties. It included delegates from smaller community cells of the party and from major social groupings such as farmers and labourers.