

nazism is by the continual and planned extension of freedom. In Canada we are not doing that. Our privileged classes, and our government, which appears to be acting at the present time for the privileged classes and only for the privileged classes, seem terribly afraid to get out of the old grooves or give up for the common good any long-held privileges. Since last we met, the war has taken a new turn; Hitler has invaded another country, a country with which he had made a non-aggression pact, a pact of friendship, in order to begin his war of conquest. Hitler has invaded Russia. Because of that move, no matter what inspired it, the people who are opposed to the nazis, that is, our allies in this war, have received the assistance of a powerful ally. All who are opposed to Hitlerism were glad to note, as the Prime Minister so well pointed out yesterday, that immediately Russia was invaded, and without any pre-arrangement, every leader of a government in the British commonwealth of nations, and some of our allies as well, hastened to assure Russia of every possible aid. It is indeed well that that was done. But I do not think it was due to generosity on the part of the people of the British commonwealth, it was merely the exercise of intelligent self-interest. Regardless of how Russia came into the conflict, she is now on our side, and I am indeed pleased that we are giving every possible assistance to her, as we must do, because in giving assistance to Russia we are helping ourselves.

I believe, however, that the Prime Minister must go a step further, even if only for psychological reasons. To-day I do not believe this government is taking psychology sufficiently into account, either in home affairs or in our relations with other countries. Russia is now our ally. She is also a great and powerful nation, as Germany has found out. If we are ultimately able to defeat Hitler and all he stands for—and God grant that we may—Russia will have an important part in making the peace and determining the new order that will follow. I therefore suggest to the Prime Minister that he open negotiations with the soviet government for the exchange of ministers or, if that is not the right phrase, start negotiations which would result in the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and the soviet union. Canada has now a representative in all the important countries of the world with which we have friendly relations, with, I think, the possible exception of China, and I believe the Prime Minister has already taken steps for the exchange of representatives with China. The Prime Minister should not be timid in this matter. Not only would it be, I believe, a popular move with the majority

[Mr. MacInnis.]

of the people of Canada, but it is a move that is indicated by the present war situation and also by the long-term political objectives of the war. We should try to get away from some of the prejudices which made it difficult if not impossible for us to appreciate and understand the growing power of fascism. It would be interesting indeed to know how much of the world's present misery is due to the mutual suspicion and distrust that have existed between the soviet government and the governments of some of the democracies since the revolution of 1917. In that regard I would point out two things that have happened since the beginning of the war which have had more effect on getting mass support for the war than everything else that has happened in the last twenty-six months. The first was the entry of representatives of the British Labour party into the British cabinet, after the removal of some of the appeasers; the second was the entry of Russia into the war. For the sake of our war effort, the future peace and the world order that we expect to build after the war, this change in the attitude of the masses of the people, not only in Canada but in all parts of the world, should not be overlooked. Therefore I commend to the Prime Minister the suggestion which I have made. The time to prepare for to-morrow is to-day, for our to-days are the results of our yesterdays.

The leader of the opposition referred to the labour situation. I wish also to refer to that, because, as I said, a number of things have happened during the recess which have greatly disturbed me. It should be obvious to the Minister of Labour and to the government that its labour policy has been and is altogether wrong. It has failed to get the support of organized labour, and proof positive that it is wrong is that there is not a labour organization or a labour spokesman in Canada that has not condemned the government's labour policy. I have tried my best to convince the Minister of Labour on that point during the last two sessions; I do not know whether I was helpful, but I tried to be, for I believe I know the mind of labour. I have given up trying to understand the government's policy. In my opinion it is definitely hostile to organized labour. Let me refer—and I use this as an illuminating example of the government's policy—to the dispute at the National Steel Car Corporation's plant at Hamilton, Ontario. I am referring to this case because it has received dominion-wide attention and also because, when the last strike took place at that plant, I wrote the Prime Minister and the Minister of Labour, drawing to their attention in terms as moderate, as sincere and as definite as I