

resolution, will proceed with a view to ending the war in Korea and removing the causes of war in other areas of Asia.

That is our position. It is not one which, in my opinion, warrants support for the amendment<sup>A</sup> of the C.C.F. party which is now before the house. To support that amendment would, I think, be to accept the despairing but sincere plea of that wise and saintly gentleman, Sir Benegal Rau, that by passing this resolution we had ended all hope of a peaceful solution of Far Eastern questions. I do not accept any such counsel of despair; and I hope that the Indian Government, on second thought, will not do so either, and will continue to participate in the work of negotiation and conciliation, to which it has already made such a magnificent contribution. We in this government will do what we can, in any way open to us, to assist that work, and to prove that the prophets of impending calamity are wrong. And events may, I think, work in our favour along this course. I am even bold enough to think that the Chinese Government in Peking will come to realize before long that the true interests of the Chinese people cannot be served now by an alliance with Russian Communist imperialism, as they could not be served in the past by Russian czarist imperialism.

In conclusion, I return from Asia to our own western and North Atlantic world. Here we are now entering the period of greatest danger in the months ahead. Our hope of coming through this period without war lies in the growing collective strength, military, economic and moral, of the free world. If we increase that strength, and use it wisely, we do not need to fear. There are in the hearts and minds and souls of free men qualities which can never be matched by slaves. If we use them we shall accomplish our own salvation. If we do not, but give way to smug complacency on the one hand or unreasoning panic on the other, we shall become, and deserve to become, slaves ourselves.

May I end with a paragraph from a magazine often quoted in this house and elsewhere, namely, The Economist. Writing on January 20 last, the editor said:

Nothing is certain about the course of events in 1951; and anyone who questions this should ask himself frankly what he was prophesying for 1950 just a year ago. The die is not cast for war or peace; events can still be controlled and minds influenced, but only if the leaders of the Kremlin can be convinced that they have equally little to hope from pressing an armed attack on the free world or to fear from withholding it. Neither strength alone nor peace

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<sup>A</sup>"We further regret that while Your Excellency's advisers have generally followed a constructive course in relation to the Korean dispute, they have in relation to the resolution branding China as an aggressor supported a course which is premature and unwise at this particular moment, and which should not have been pursued until the methods of peaceful negotiation had been completely exhausted."