

*The Address—Mr. Fleming*

communists in Canada. The events of recent years, and particularly of the past two years, including the fall of freedom in Czechoslovakia, must have made it perfectly clear that the activities of communists all over the world are directed from one source and centre, and one alone. It is the Kremlin. Communists do not operate independently in different countries. They operate under a system of international strategy directed by the Kremlin. If the government thinks it is perfectly right and proper that the same freedom of action should be extended to communists in Canada as they have exercised hitherto, then let them so declare.

The recent revelations of the spying activities in this country of Dr. Klaus Fuchs should wake up some of those on the treasury benches who hitherto have been sleeping so soundly on this subject. These and other matters, not to mention what was said to the house last fall by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Claxton) to the effect that his department was not prepared to entrust to the national film board the making of films involving matters essential to the defence of Canada, and the remarks of the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. McCann) in referring to screening being carried on, screening—which the government apparently considered necessary—of those engaged in broadcasting overseas in foreign languages over the C.B.C. shortwave facilities, ought to be enough to put members of the house on their guard, and to call for resolute action on the part of the government.

What do I propose? In the first place I suggest that the government should be frank with us. It was none other than the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) who, in a speech to the Montreal Rotary Club on July 19 last, said this:

The domestic threat of communism must be met "by strengthening, if necessary, our Criminal Code against actions which threaten the security of the state."

These are the words of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, a man who has seen with his own eyes the sinister deprivations of communism in other countries, who has shown by his statement on July 19 last that he is aware that these activities are being carried on in Canada. Just what is the strengthening of the Criminal Code that he recommends? What are the activities of these communists against which he recommends that action should be taken by way of strengthening the Criminal Code? I agree with him that the Criminal Code should be strengthened. I want him to come forward and tell us, as he should, about the activities on which that comment was based.

Let me remind this house that almost four years have passed since the royal commission on communist espionage in this country made its report. The Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) has made much of the action that was taken thereon. There have been trials of those who were named in the report of that commission, but the government have not exhausted the recommendations that were made. In the light of world events it is well that the house should be reminded today of what those recommendations were. They will be found at pages 689 and 690 of the report. There are seven recommendations in all, and I shall be brief with them. The first relates to withholding publication of certain exhibits at the inquiry, and I need not dwell on that. This is the second one:

2. That the proper authorities in each service, department and organization take such steps as may be considered desirable and effective, in the light of this report and of the evidence and exhibits, to prevent further unauthorized transmission of information and to set up further safeguards.

What has the government done? Here four years later we are told that certain departments and branches of the government are not entrusted with certain government business because their employees have not been screened. I repeat, that is four years after the recommendation made by the royal commission.

3. That all security measures should be coordinated and rendered as uniform as possible.

4. That the evidence and exhibits accompanying this report be placed before the proper persons in the various services, departments and organizations affected, for study so that a complete evaluation of the information and the material handed over can be made in each case to ascertain in detail what has, and what has not, been compromised. That consideration be given to whether the findings so made should be communicated to the proper authorities in the United Kingdom and the United States.

Then consider the importance of the next recommendation:

5. That the Official Secrets Act, 1939, be studied in the light of the information contained in this report and in the evidence and exhibits, and, if it is thought advisable, that it be amended to provide additional safeguards.

The government has not introduced in this house any bill to amend and strengthen the Official Secrets Act.

6. That consideration be given to any additional security measures which would be practical to prevent the infiltration into positions of trust under the government of persons likely to commit acts such as those described in this report.

What has been done in the light of that recommendation? Here four years later the screening is still not completed.

7. That the practice and procedure in connection with the issue of Canadian passports be revised. While not elsewhere referred to in this report, we have had evidence indicating that naturalization and birth certificates have also been improperly