

*External Affairs*

Is it not better for us at this time to recognize the fact that, so far as China is concerned, there is no complete control of that country today?—and I do not think anyone, at least during our lifetime, will have complete control of it. It is in a fluid state. The armies of a certain section representing communism are in there, but they have not much to work on. My recollection of the Chinese people is that they are most versatile, and it will not be easy to ignore them.

Is it not better for us now to recognize what Great Britain recognized? She recognized China because she was faced with an immediate war, with the possibility of being driven out of Hong Kong. Indeed, I do not believe she could have held on. So, was it not better for her to stay there and to hold that section of China so that she could open up trade relations and have people in that country working along with the Chinese people at this time, while the situation is still fluid within that country?

Would it not be better for us to do that now? Would we not be wise to establish trade relations because, whether we like it or not, we are part of the United Nations set-up? In my opinion the delegates from the present government of China will be recognized and within the near future will be seated within the United Nations. Where is there any appeasement in our wanting to take the only logical step we could take at this time, that of keeping in there and helping the Chinese straighten out the mess they have at the present time?

I come from a riding which is well informed on international affairs, and in which there is an old established union with a co-operative set-up. They have studied this question thoroughly. I was in touch with them on it while I was home, and I have no hesitation in making the statement here that they believe this is the responsibility of the government.

The minister has set out certain definite steps which must be taken before recognition is granted. When these steps are taken and when the government is assured that the government they are going to recognize and with which they are going to establish relations can live up to its international obligations, then I believe it would be proper for this government to take those steps and thus keep as close as possible to the Chinese people.

I have no hesitation in saying that, and I believe the great majority of people outside the house would support the government, if they understood the situation. However, most people are confused by the double talk they hear on this matter. So many people are afraid to take any stand until they see which way the straws are blowing, with the result

that people do not have leadership and do not understand. Then, they are confused by the editorials in the different newspapers, one pulling this way and the other that—not because they are particularly concerned with the government's responsibility but because they can make certain propaganda and capital out of the subject. The result is that people are confused. This question is so serious and can create so much confusion that I believe the minister and the government are entitled to the expression of definite opinions, without any double talk, as to where each member stands. In this way the people outside may be enlightened and have a clear lead from the House of Commons.

Ninety-five per cent of those who sent us here have not the time to read and understand the implications of all these matters. Members have that time, and should make a study of these subjects. It is my belief that members of the House of Commons are morally obligated to give the people some understanding of what should be done when a matter of this kind comes up—because this question may become the key to the future, so far as war is concerned.

I should like to see the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) take strong steps within his own party for full implementation of the recommendation of committees within the United Nations structure, because I do not think in the world today there is any country in a better position to carry out the recommendations with regard to full employment and the recommendations made by FAO. I believe if we can show our people, people outside and those within the structure of the United Nations, that Canada is accepting her commitments and living up to them, it will be the best way to influence the Czechs, the Yugoslavs and the Chinese, and all those who go with them.

I believe I have said in the house many times that I am not afraid of a shooting war. First, I do not think the United States will ever take aggressive action to start a war. Secondly, I do not think there is any country in the world more afraid of war than Russia. As I see Russia today, and as I have seen her for some time, she is in much the same position as Germany was in 1944. She has spread herself—and the farther she spreads the weaker she gets. Today I see her as the fly who captured the flypaper—he was there, and he was stuck with it. When a country has to police half of Europe, and then pitch in and help China, and has her forces scattered all over the world, she is not getting any stronger.

If someone wanted to shoot tomorrow, what do you think the Czechs would do, or the