

people against an atomic bomb attack? We go ahead building hospitals in congested areas, and as yet we have no national military roads, though for our own safety we should have them leading out from all our large cities. I have wondered what might happen, for instance, should an atomic bomb drop in the great city of Vancouver. It would be a tragedy too terrible to contemplate. No military road leads out of the city, and the hospitals are jammed in its very centre. No one can say what the suffering and what the death toll would be.

And who can say that such a thing will not happen. We have all heard that Russia would be at war now if she had the atom bomb or if the United States did not have it. Well, I do not know if anyone can read the minds of these orientals in Moscow—and Stalin is an oriental—but I know that they can read our minds. I am speaking from a practical point or view. If we really believe that there is danger of an atomic bomb attack, why are we not taking steps to defend ourselves? We have long heard the Maritime Provinces and the western provinces, including British Columbia, voicing objection to the centralization of industry in Ontario and Quebec. Well, I trust that now that we are going to gather our military and industrial materials and might around us, something will be done to spread our industrial plants clear across the entire nation.

The other day I placed on the Order Paper some questions about the theft of Bren guns. I had a definite object in mind in doing so, but as yet I have received no answer. I read in the newspapers about two Bren guns having been stolen, one in Vancouver and the other in New Westminster. I spoke to one of the leading officers of the New Westminster Regiment, and he informed me that there were no guards at their armouries and that anybody could break into them. I just wonder what anybody would do with a Bren gun anyway? I can understand a man stealing a rifle, a pistol, or a revolver, but I cannot understand why anyone for his own personal use would break into an armoury and steal a Bren gun and a thousand rounds of ammunition. I hope our military people will take a more realistic view of the situation in the world today. Why could we not utilize the Veterans' Guard to watch armouries across Canada? Are we just going to pussyfoot

and talk about the great military might of Russia and the terrible consequences of atom bombing, but do nothing more than that?

I mention these matters this afternoon in the hope that thereby I will do something to arouse not only the authorities but the Canadian people in general to the realities of the present situation. We may know a little more about what the government intends to do when we hear the budget address this evening, and I trust that each and every one of us in this country will willingly bear our share of the burden. The highest service will be rendered by members of the armed forces who are prepared to sacrifice their lives in order that freedom may be preserved, but the rest of the people also must make sacrifices for the same great purpose.

I am not taking an unduly dim view of the situation. I trust to God that the democracies are not too late in getting together in their might. It has long been my opinion that military might is the only language understood by Soviet Russia. She has used the United Nations as a sounding board for her lying propaganda, while at the same time she has been building up the most powerful armed forces the world has ever seen. Honourable members will recall how, before the last war, Germany had convinced many people that she was invincible. Unlike Russia, she opened her doors and invited outsiders to come in and be shown. One of those who accepted the invitation was Lindbergh, and upon his return to the United States he said, in effect: "Give up any idea of fighting Germany. She cannot be defeated. No country can stand up against her." How false his prophecy was, time has shown. And I say that so long as the free democracies pool their resources and act together as a unit there is no reason to be dismayed by the great might of Russia. Let us act with firmness, against enemies outside the country as well as against those within, and pray that we may not be too late.

Hon. Mr. McKeen: Honourable senators, if no one else wishes to speak this afternoon, I move adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.