

complain that constitutional changes made in 1950 did not work out as they were expected to do. But I am sure that if the delegates to the conference enter upon its work with the same spirit of good will and co-operation as prevailed among the Fathers of Confederation, the work done now will be as good as what was done then. That is all I can hope for.

The problems facing Canada today have to do with trade, unemployment, communistic influence and increasing expenditures with decreasing income. I will deal first with communism and the cold war.

I live in a city that has a very large communistic vote. Indeed, I doubt if in any other city in Canada a larger proportion of the population votes continuously for communistic candidates in municipal, provincial and dominion elections. On the Winnipeg school board we have one communist out of fifteen members; in the city council we have two out of eighteen; in the legislature we have one out of twelve. In each case the proportion is quite large. And what is the motive of these communistic representatives? Well, take the school board for instance. The communist member on the school board constantly advocates maximum expenditures. Possibly he believes in the soundness of what he advocates, but I really doubt that he does. I think he hopes that extravagant expenditure will break down the educational set-up in our city. The same is true of the communists in the city council. The constant agitation for increased civic expenditures is an attempt to break down the municipal government. There is similar agitation in the legislature of the province of Manitoba, but to a lesser extent, because the population of the city of Winnipeg is only about one-quarter of the population of the province. Our people must understand that the purpose of spreading the doctrines of communism in our country is to wreck our economic system. If we examine the propaganda technique employed in all the European countries which have fallen under communistic influence, we will see that its purpose was to break down the municipal, provincial and state governments, and then to overthrow them.

I was delighted to hear the honourable senator from Huron-Perth (Hon. Mr. Golding) say that we who do not believe in communism fail to preach enough against the present tendency of many people, when they are in trouble, to go to the government. We have failed to tell the people of this country that money does not grow on berry bushes, and that the money expended by the government—and I am not criticizing the present government particularly—is money taken from you and me, and everyone in Canada,

by way of taxation. I think the honourable mover of the Address took the proper stand when he said that we have to recognize that many of our people take this attitude, and find some way of remedying the situation.

If we in our calm judgment decide that such social services as old age pensions, unemployment insurance and war veterans' pensions should be continued, I have no objection. I do, however, object to the propaganda that is being spread across this country, by many people, that all deficiencies should be made up by the government. I may be treading on dangerous ground, but I say that by means of this kind of propaganda the communists are trying to break down our system of government.

We in this country believe—some more than others, perhaps—in the Christian religion. The communists are atheists. What makes their propaganda powerful is the fact that in our country certain people who do not deserve it get something for nothing; and we are going to have trouble with that element as long as this propaganda goes unchallenged. I do not think that we will see a war within a year or two, but unless we stop the spread of the communistic doctrine in our country war is inevitable.

It is shocking to note that at the last municipal election in the city of Toronto—I am not familiar with Montreal—30,000 votes were recorded for the communist party. I know that in my home city of Winnipeg there were nearly 8,000 communist votes cast. As I say, it is shocking to think that in this country, with its acme of freedom through the democratic system, so many people should vote in sympathy with a country which does not understand or practise democracy. When a communist is cornered on the subject, he will admit, if he is honest, that Russia has the worst form of dictatorship, because it has a system that is democratic in appearance. At election time one name appears on the ballot and a citizen may either vote for the candidate or put in a blank ballot, which is the same as voting for the candidate. That, to me, is not democracy at all.

I am perturbed about the spread of communism in Canada and in the United States, not because it can make real progress and upset and overthrow the governments, but because in our attack against it something is lacking, and we fail to meet the propaganda that is circulated. Some may tell you that communism will be overcome if people are given lots to eat and plenty to wear. But that will not meet the Communist tactics. Fundamentally, they preach that there is nothing that a government cannot do if it wants to do it, and that they will do what is wanted if they get the power.