

criticizing Dr. Endicott and the Red Dean, we should invite them in and ask them to name the persons in this country that they think are interested in making war. Then if they were unable to point to anyone, they should be asked if they would accept a sum of money and go to Russia, where we would pay their expenses in the promotion of the cause of peace.

**Hon. Mr. Beaubien:** But not their return fare.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** I agree with the statement of the leader of the government that Russia is spending huge sums on armaments to keep her own people satisfied. I have met many Russian people in the community in which I live. I have particularly in mind a doctor who escaped from Russia at the time of the revolution. While in China, I think, he received an offer of a position in a Russian hospital. By some means he got a message through to a doctor friend and asked him if it was safe for him to return. The friend warned him that if he valued his life he should keep moving. That doctor came to Blaine Lake, where he has been for seventeen years. The friend to whom he wrote in Russia went to Latvia, where he prospered for a time, but later lost everything. He too is now in Blaine Lake, and he is preparing to try some examinations so that he may practise medicine in this country. His son came with him. In speaking to a friend of mine who understands Russian, he said that Russia will not be able for ten years to carry on a major war, because the living conditions of the masses of the people are so poor. As the leader of the government has said, the rulers of Russia are carrying on propaganda to make their people believe that every other nation wants to attack them. Up to the present they have never been able to give their own people anything like a decent living. So, while we here are concerned for fear that a few Russians in Canada may not be loyal, I believe that Russia herself is afraid that the great majority of her people would not support the Soviet government if it began a war.

In surveying the world situation generally, my impression is that we are in a deplorable position. There seems to be a lack of world leadership. Recently the world lost one of its finest citizens. I have always admired Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, who recently passed away; and it is a matter for regret that his age and ill health prevented him from playing a greater part in the present crisis.

What about our record as Canadians? It has been suggested that we should know our

enemy: yes, but we should know ourselves. "Man, know thyself" was the advice of a great thinker. We should study wherein we have failed or fallen short of what we might have done. What a ridiculous position we are in today. After destroying the finest plants in the world, created and operated by Germans, we are now going to rebuild them. For four years I have pleaded that German prisoners in Canada should be allowed to remain here. Wherever they worked, whether in the beet factories or the lumber camps, they begged the government to allow them to stay. Many of them were among the finest men Canada ever had. I spoke to this effect both in this chamber and in committee, but with no result. Yet the late General Smuts, after bravely fighting the British armies in the field, became one of the leaders of the British Commonwealth of Nations. I say there was no justification for our action regarding the German prisoners. It was dictated by fear—and fear of what? Fear of the labour unions. I believe that this country is likely to be short of millions of workers. Our production and resources make us the wealthiest country per capita in the world, yet, as was pointed out recently in the *Toronto Globe*, we are so afraid of admitting workers from outside that only four hundred men are to be brought in for harvest work. Probably there are millions available in Germany. There is hardly a Canadian home in which a maid is not needed; our people are only too anxious to provide good homes and treat their help fairly, but help is not to be had. Even the shortage of meat to which I have referred is the result of the shortage of labour. Men accustomed to working conditions in the cities will not go on the farms; yet I believe there are a million Germans willing to come here and do what most of our people are unwilling to do.

Let me quote from my own experience, which is no different from that of 90 per cent of Western Canadians. As the honourable senator from Prince Albert (Hon. Mr. Stevenson) knows, it was not the custom of Western Canadian farmers to pay high wages. A man went to a farm to serve an apprenticeship, and if he was fortunate enough to serve with a good farmer he himself became a competent farmer and the man for whom he worked provided him with credit when he started on his own account. After men worked for me for a number of years I told them they could look to me if they needed some assistance; and when they started on their own farms I gave them some credit. Even today I get letters from some who advise me that they need so much money for such a purpose;