

deserve. That is a matter more serious to them than the problem that we face here, but it is something from which we can learn.

Still in the field of culture there was a resolution dealing with the organization of a European cultural year. This will be the focal point for co-operation on a human level where the best instincts of men and women are highlighted, and I look forward to the organization of this year with great interest. Then there is the matter of free flow of information. The following appears under the heading "Information":

• (1730)

Free flow of information by eliminating obstacles to the exchange of ideas, books, newspapers, films, and radio and television programs—

This is important.

—while recognizing the right of each country to protect its cultural and political values—

Once this caveat is attached there are many things that can be read into it. It is rather interesting that during the drafting of the resolutions there were present representatives of the Soviet Union and the United States. Their concerns were somewhat identical. Each considered the other's information services to be propaganda services. Recognition of that alone is a step forward to understanding what information services are. What one country is trying to do in providing information might be called propaganda in another country. This is a terribly sensitive area. Then there is the measure for facilitating the freedom of foreign journalists so that they can work unimpeded and have freedom of movement.

The whole question of human rights was raised. The question of fundamental human rights flowed through everything we dealt with, but perhaps with a different orientation as between the east and the west. It also called for the participants to reinforce the application of the principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to hasten ratification of the International Covenant on Human Rights. We in Canada may not understand why other countries have not ratified the declaration on human rights, but we might consider for a moment that Canada has not ratified it either. I hope that ratification is not far off. We have reasons for this: there is the problem of federal-provincial jurisdiction. However, I think we should stop being self-righteous and criticizing others for raising their perhaps legitimate concerns when we have problems ourselves.

On the other hand, it would be foolish to be naïve. It is a tough world. We are involved with people with whose social systems we differ. We recognize those differences and talk about them openly and freely. I was very impressed, as I have been in respect of negotiations between east and west over the past couple of years, with a slow trend toward moving together and finding that our values are similar respecting ecology and the quality of life, which is perhaps a cliché but a very valid one. We seem to find that we have much more in common than we realized. The progress is slow, but it is very much better than not making progress at all; it is very much better than not meeting and talking. I believe it was Churchill who said that it is better to jaw, jaw, jaw than to shoot,

shoot, shoot. I think we are making progress. We cannot expect solutions overnight; we cannot expect miracles.

I should like to add to the praise of the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. MacLean) for the courtesy, hospitality and assistance of Ambassador Coté and, indeed, Madame Coté as well as Mr. Michael Shensone, one of the officials taking part in the Dipoli conferences as representatives of government at the ambassadorial level. Without taking up too much time, I think it is worth digressing for a moment because Madame Coté, when we had a couple of free hours, took the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) and myself to see the suburb of Tapeola. Tapeola is a suburban community of Helsinki which is built on a very human scale. There are no high-rise buildings except possibly one office building. There are amazing recreational facilities. They accommodate the motor car but do not succumb to it. Things are on a human scale where people live as human beings in a totally integrated and very beautiful setting. It reminded me very much of the Muskoka or Georgian Bay regions with which I am particularly familiar. I think that in our urban planning we could learn a great deal from what the Finnish people have done. So outside of the conference itself there has been some really valuable spin-off and I believe that tour, or diversion perhaps was as valuable as the whole conference, in a totally different way. There is often such a spin-off which one does not expect in these matters.

I think the work of Mr. Peter Dobell was invaluable to us, as the hon. member for Malpeque pointed out. With his energy, his expertise and his contacts he paved the way for us, kept us moving and made us far more effective than we might otherwise have been. He made us feel a great deal more at ease. I would also mention Jean MacPherson and others of the Parliamentary Union staff who were so helpful. I was particularly proud of my colleagues, the hon. member for Malpeque, who led our delegation, and the hon. member for Scarborough West. They conducted themselves in a manner which brought only credit to Canada. I must say our colleague from Scarborough West was designated as our bilingual member. He delivered much of his intervention in both official languages and in a manner which made it sound official. I pay a tribute, of course, to our Finnish host, Johannes Virolainen, who chaired the conference and was particularly helpful in a cold climate where you wait until Helsinki freezes over. They were warm and gracious hosts; they made us feel very much at home and were highly efficient and kind.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I should like to move an amendment to the motion. I am not sure of the procedure involved here since I seconded the motion. I do not know whether I may move an amendment, but I think we might find a way to handle it. With unanimous consent I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Malpeque, that in amendment to motion 76 in the name of the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) the following be added:

and that the Final Act of the conference be referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order, please. The Chair finds a procedure problem concerning the acceptability of the amendment in its present form. It would seem