

*Supply—External Affairs*

veloping countries can be made by helping them to develop the thousand and one skills they require if they are to move into the modern world and into affluent society.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Mr. Chairman, in all fairness I think one has to make some sort of reply to the remarks that my very good friend, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, has made. I very often agree with his views, but I am afraid I cannot in this particular case. He suggested that my representations to the minister were of a high moralistic character. I assure the hon. member that they were not intended to be such, but were intended to be of a realistic nature rather than somewhere out on cloud nine.

The main objection as I see it to this policy, without repeating what I have already said, is that on the one hand we are supporting Malaysia, so the government informs us, with arms, military advice and other aid to help in its efforts against this completely unprovoked aggression on the part of Indonesia, while on the other hand we are indirectly providing Dr. Sukarno with foreign exchange with which he can buy arms to carry on the war with Malaysia. If anything could be considered as having come from Alice in Wonderland, surely that could.

One other observation I neglected to make in my earlier remarks I should like to make now, and I am delighted that the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands reminded me of it. He pointed out that the previous administration initiated the sale of wheat to the People's Republic of China, and that that was the same as making gifts to the government of Dr. Sukarno.

I am astonished by the hon. member, who is the financial critic of his party, when he makes a statement like that. Surely he knows better, because one of the advantages of selling wheat or other foodstuffs to countries such as the People's Republic of China and insisting on payment as we do is that it uses up their pool of foreign exchange and indirectly prevents them from buying abroad more arms, machinery and other materials with which wars can be waged. This is certainly one of the prime reasons for selling wheat to countries with aggressive intentions. It uses up their foreign exchange, which they cannot then use to purchase war materials and the like abroad. I am astonished that the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands would not have observed that. However, perhaps on the spur of the moment he overlooked it.

[Mr. Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands).]

I was very interested in the suggestion made by the previous speaker concerning teachers and students. Only a few moments ago and on many other occasions I have said I have no objection to this at all. I think it would be a good thing if Indonesian students were trained here or if we were to send teachers to Indonesia. This is not contributing directly or indirectly to the Indonesian government's war effort. This would help the long range development program of that country, which certainly needs such help; and if the minister would divert this money to some such program nobody would have any objection.

What is objected to is that this gift of food could be made use of indirectly to purchase war materials to carry on aggression against Malaysia, which is a member of the commonwealth and which we support militarily and economically. That is where the objection lies. Again I mention the fact that if this food should go to Indonesia we have no assurance and no way of knowing that it will ever reach the people it is supposed to reach. In all probability it will be used by the Indonesian army on some of their aggressive tours either now or in the future.

Since the minister told us last night that he has not yet sent this wheat flour to Indonesia, I should hope he would give serious consideration either to sending it to Malaysia, or to diverting the funds to training students or, as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands suggested, to sending teachers to Indonesia to help train the people there. But for heaven's sake let us not continue on the one hand to help Dr. Sukarno, albeit indirectly, wage war against Malaysia and on the other hand help Malaysia to protect itself against the aggression by Dr. Sukarno which we are indirectly supporting.

**Mr. Barnett:** Mr. Chairman, as the committee knows, I have listened with interest both last night and again today to the argument being advanced by the hon. member for Oxford. Like my colleague, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, I find myself rather confused with regard to the logic of the argument put forward by the hon. member for Oxford. If, as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands suggested, the hon. member for Oxford had advocated a complete embargo on any kind of relationship, economic or otherwise, with Indonesia, I could understand the logic of his position even though I would not agree with it. But I fail to understand the logic of his argument that on the one hand we should not consider