External Aid

Hercules operations. However, sustained operations would have seriously damaged the runway which was not acceptable to the FMG.

Mr. Speaker: I see that the acting leader of the New Democratic party is seeking the floor in competition with the hon. member from Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. Gibson). I have to take into account the number of speakers from the different parties who have taken part in the debate, and in view of this I am inclined to recognize the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth.

• (9:40 p.m.)

Mr. Colin D. Gibson (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, Canada should in my view continue its policy of non-political intervention so lucidly and forcibly expressed by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) during the debate earlier today and by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), whom we are all glad to see back in the house after his strenuous and successful travels around the world in the interest of world peace.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, may I also tell you, in the beautiful French language, one of the two I know-not the second, for they are equal in all respects-that Canadian diplomacy, for all Canada, is that of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) who really understands the role our country plays in the world today.

[English]

Mr. Speaker, the facts now indicate, in my opinion, that the Nigerian-Biafran issue is a politically contrived issue calculated to be used for the propaganda purposes of the opposition.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Gibson: Because the opposition has been totally lacking any substantive issue on which to badger the government, it has picked this issue involving a country many thousand miles away from Canada through which to voice their pent-up frustrations. It is quite clear that the learned Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) has clearly faced these issues.

As a young member of this party I attended recently at the United Nations as a delegate. It was with some concern that I noticed, when talking about matters with Nigerians, that in their conversation they exhibited some

[Mr. Sharp.]

wonderment and dismay. Fortunately the delegation from Canada included representatives from all parties in the house and we were able to convince the Nigerian representatives that the adverse impressions they had gained originated in a splinter group in the House of Commons represented by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin).

Since the hon, member for Greenwood is a lawyer it is shocking to me that he would abandon all legal principles of international law. It is interesting to see how he can scrap these hard won principles when grasping for alleged political patronage. He has lost the feeling of the nation, and somehow has become the spokesman for some minority group in Africa, an unauthorized country, a country without sanction.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Greenwood on a question of privilege.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member just suggested that I represent some minority in Africa. I should like to remind him that I am trying my best to do something for nine million starving people in Africa.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It being 9.45 o'clock, it is my duty, pursuant to special order made on Wednesday, November 6, 1968, to interrupt these proceedings and put forthwith the question on the amendment now before the house.

The house divided on the amendment (Mr. Fairweather) which was negatived on the following division:

YEAS Messrs:

Alexander Asselin Baldwin Beaudoin Bell Benjamin Bigg Brewin Broadbent Cadieu (Meadow Lake) Comeau Crouse Danforth Dinsdale Downey Fairweather Flemming Forrestall Gilbert

Gleave

Gundlock Hales Harding Harkness Howard (Skeena) Howe Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre) Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand) Lambert (Bellechasse) Lambert (Edmonton West)

Laprise La Salle Latulippe Lewis Lundrigan MacDonald (Egmont) MacEwan

MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond)