

*Supply—External Affairs*

prepared to push it forward. It would seem that the main trouble is that we are perhaps in a state of moral bankruptcy. We seem to only half believe in our system and even in our own philosophy. We seem to lack that something which gives legs to our ideas, if we ever had any ideas.

I would suggest that if we are ever to convince the great masses of human beings that the free way, the democratic way of life is best, we will have to act as though we believe it ourselves. This means that we must live carefully what we profess to believe. When we do, our self-respect is raised high, our enthusiasm becomes catching and the underprivileged peoples of the world will want to find the same kind of enthusiasm and happiness that we have found.

So again let me say we commend the minister for his attitude in the face of continuing communist threats, but we would suggest he take a more positive attitude and come up with something that would really meet the challenge of the Russians and put them on their guard against the reality of western ideals and concepts of democratic living.

Now, Mr. Chairman, there has been some reference made to the problem posed by events in the Middle East. I suppose this remains one of the most threatening areas in the world. We do appreciate, and we want to place ourselves on record as appreciating, the work that has been done by General Burns and the other Canadians who are serving on the supervisory teams. We think he has been doing a magnificent job in the face of almost impossible circumstances and situations. He has been carrying on, even although there has been some opposition, and just recently a request on the part of one of the Arab nations for his dismissal. I do not believe there is any member in this house who would go along with that because we have confidence in the work that General Burns is doing and in him as an administrator.

We believe that the mission of Mr. Hammar-skjold, secretary general of the United Nations, has had a very salutary effect upon conditions in the Middle East. We hope it will be fruitful, not only just to starve off a conflict but in finally resolving these problems that are so pressing in that section of the world. However, these basic problems still remain unsolved. The main problem, of course, is to get the Arab nations to even agree to recognize the existence of the state of Israel. I suppose other members have received, as I have, some reprints from editorials in the *New York Times* with respect to this very problem, and the attitude that

the Arab countries are taking in this respect. Certainly, they have not indicated any intention of recognizing the existence of Israel and they are still committed to their professed role in world affairs of driving Israel into the sea.

The other problems have been mentioned before, the refugee problem. I asked the minister in the committee if any thought was being given to the matter of making further contributions to the Palestine relief organization conditional upon their use for rehabilitation of the refugees rather than their maintenance in these camps. Although that has not been possible up to the present I hope the minister will continue to keep that thought in mind. I believe he is pressing towards that position, that this money ought to be used for rehabilitation.

Egypt's nationalization of the Suez has placed another problem in the laps of those who are endeavouring to work out a solution for this area. Since the situation is in a very difficult and fluid state just now, I do not think any good would be accomplished by discussion of it to any great extent. But certainly, I feel that the suggestion that the Suez be put under an international board has merit. Above all, this must be maintained as an international waterway in the interests of the nations of the world. When the time comes I trust that the government will make known the stand of Canada in this particular respect. It seems as though Premier Nasser has failed to demonstrate either the desire or the intention of co-operating in the peaceful solution of the problems. He has failed to lead his people into an appreciation of a reasonably responsible course of action in the face of difficult situations. It would appear that something would have to be done to curtail his enthusiasm in some regards and bring it more into line with international law.

I had intended to speak, Mr. Chairman, on the matter of Red China. I just want to say this. I am in hearty disagreement with the hon. member who just spoke in this house when he states that he regrets there has been no change in the government's attitude regarding the position in the Far East. He suggested it was time that Canada acted independently, making her own decisions and taking action on her own account. I should like to ask this question. On what ground does the hon. member for Winnipeg North assume that, if the Canadian people did express their desire, it would be any different from the course the government is now following? Certainly, I do not believe the Canadian people are in a position now where they want to recognize the communist regime of Red China. Certainly I do not believe that. I think this government ought to continue