

*Interim Supply*

I trust that the corporation, upon completion of the changeover, will immediately start a survey of reception in the area to determine whether this changeover has effected any improvement in television reception. I am thinking particularly of areas such as Gypsumville, St. Martin, Steep Rock, Moosehorn, Ashern, Eriksdale, Lundar, Poplarfield, Broad Valley, Fisher Branch, Hodgson, Dallas—

**Some hon. Members:** All aboard.

**Mr. Stefanson:**—Koostatak, Arborg, River-ton, Hecla and Matheson Island.

**Some hon. Members:** All aboard.

**Mr. Stefanson:** Yes, you can all say "All aboard". All these areas are entitled to television service.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Stefanson:** If there is not a substantial improvement for these areas, I am sure there will be a flood of protests submitted by the people from this area to the C.B.C. and to myself.

**Mr. Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could for a moment bring the committee back from the reaches of the C.B.C. and its service to Canada, or lack of service to Canada, to present some ideas on our trade policy, because I see little opportunity of being able to do this on the minister's estimates. Perhaps we will never see them again this session; therefore I have decided to seize this opportunity because I can then deal with the estimates of two departments which will be concerned with what I have to speak of this evening, the Department of Trade and Commerce and the Department of External Affairs.

It used to be said that war was merely an extension of diplomatic policy. I would suggest that today that conception should be changed to read that trade and the credits on which trade can be financed should form part of the diplomatic policy of any country. But Canada, I am sure we are all glad to know and realize, has only had one foreign policy for a very long time, and that is a policy of maintaining and promoting peace throughout the world. We are being called on to follow this policy in some rather strenuous ways. This summer, when I had the opportunity to see one of these forces that we have supplied for action in the Middle East, it occurred to me that perhaps Canadians have been somewhat suckers in this regard, in that we have meekly accepted

[Mr. Stefanson.]

these responsibilities without having demanded any powers to seek some solutions.

This summer I was fortunate enough to receive invitations from two governments to visit their countries as their guests; not, as some of my friends in the press gallery have been suggesting to the people, to indulge in elderly gambolling in Europe, but it was a very strenuous fact-finding tour of Egypt and of Israel. I must say that I left the Middle East profoundly depressed at the situation there, which leaves one wondering whether the men in the Gaza strip who represent the force we have had there for eight years will be represented 80 years from now with a similar force, because we are doing nothing to deal with this problem. I would suggest this is an area in which our trade policies should play a very important role.

During my quite extensive tour of Egypt I was taken to a number of their developments in which it seemed to me Canada is ideally placed to take part. I was taken to the Aswan dam, and to visit the large fertilizer factory, the CIMA factory, which turns out some 400,000 tons of fertilizer per year; it has been in operation for about 1½ years. This factory, together with a similar factory near Cairo, turns out only just over 50 per cent of the requirements of the country, according to the director of this plant at Aswan. It seemed to me that here was a place in which Canada could well play a role in aiding the Egyptians in the frightful struggle they have at the present time to make their food production keep pace with their increasing population.

We were taken to the area west of Alexandria where the Egyptians are developing a new province, with desert reclamation. This was a very impressive project, but the young director who showed me around all day pointed out that he lacked adequate modern, agricultural machinery. He had been in North America; he had been sent to the Imperial Valley and to Berkeley, the University of California. He was aware—and told me of it—that the only place in which this sort of machinery could be obtained would be in North America, either in the United States or in Canada; that he was seriously handicapped by lack of it, and handicapped by lack of fertilizer to promote growth in that area.

I noticed, in the new town of Aswan that has been built, that in the big department store there was a tremendous preponderance of German household goods of every kind on the shelves. Again it occurred to me that here