S.O. 29

situation and what should be done to improve it, said that no option should be rejected out of hand because, eventually, everything would have to be done to resolve this intolerable situation. He also said, and I shall quote him to conclude my intervention: "To define and extract a tumour, whatever its nature, the surgeon needs to expose it to the light, and even though he is aware of the pain which will result for the patient, he must dissect mercilessly and completely."

Which brings us to say, Mr. Speaker, that the sanctions will certainly be painful, but that we must have the courage to impose them.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, last Monday, in Montreal, I had the privilege of meeting Bishop Tutu with a number of people who were very involved in the cause we are debating in the House today, and I would like to name a few of these people: Mr. Charbonneau, the President of the CEQ, Mr. Laberge, the President of the Fédération du travail du Québec, and Mr. Gérard Larose, the President of the CSN, as well as a number of wellknown Montrealers, and also, under the umbrella of the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale, representatives of student associations, the Fédération des femmes du Québec, the Ligue des droits et libertés and a representative from the Assemblée des évêques du Québec. And of course, since everyone wanted to talk to Bishop Tutu, I barely had time to let him know the gratifying news that on the Saturday before, May 31, youth members of my party, and I say this without partisanship, the young Liberals of Quebec who were attending their convention in Ottawa to select the resolutions that will be debated in Ottawa on November 26, 28 and 30 of this year, that they had adopted a number of resolutions. There was one that was particularly relevant to this debate and on which I would like to expand. They asked, and this is something new for our politically-oriented youth, for an end to economic and diplomatic relations with South Africa, if that country continued its apartheid policy, and also for recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the principal, not the sole, but the principal spokesperson for the Palestinians.

Mr. Speaker, you know how very interested I am in international affairs, and I have never been ashamed to say so, because it has always been my view that a federal Member should have an international perspective. A provincial member and a municipal councillor may have other concerns, but a federal Member, while defending the interests of his province and the people who elected him, ought to remember the international perspective as well. And in my case, I have been interested in international events for 20 years. It strikes me that if every single Head of State in this world would stop being afraid . . . I am referring to the kind of fear that is so overpowering it prevents you from making important decisions. I maintain that all these Heads of State know what is going on. They know, because they are better informed than I am. They all have departments that work for them. They know perfectly well that if in certain cases action is not taken, this will necessarily to have certain consequences.

What I do not understand, what I refuse to understandand on such questions I am a stubborn man-is that we are not taking action at the appropriate time. Mr. Speaker, why is it that we failed to understand what was happening, for instance, in 1959 and during the many years before which brought us to the Cuban revolution of 1960, how did we fail to appreciate that those people were seeking dignity and respect for their rights? How can we not understand what is going on in Nicaragua, what made people want to get rid of dictators? Because we were absent. Because we do not understand, or because we do not want to understand, we find ourselves in the kind of situation facing us today. How can we not understand what is happening in Chile? How do we fail to understand and I try to take current examples, be it in Haiti or in the other countries I just mentioned? Why, for instance since my colleague from Mount Royal (Mrs. Finestone) has reminded us of things which are very true, why is it that my colleague from Mount Royal, who opened the door for me, does not feel as much concern as I do about the plight of those people who lived through the holocaust, but also of those people who are called the Palestinians?

When I consider what is happening in South Africa, Mr. Speaker, and draw a parallel with the Palestinian issue, I say: My God, these are two extremely explosive situations which might compromise world peace. Of course there are other tragedies in the world, of course there are other tragedies in Africa, of course there are other tragedies, other absurdities in the Middle East. I have in mind the Iran-Iraq war, but when I look at these two cases in particular, I am forced to draw some conclusions. How is it that a country like mine, on November 29, 1947, I believe, few countries were represented at the United Nations ... we then voted for the creation of two Palestinian states, 33 countries voted, 13 to 10. The most extraordinary aspect is that one of the 33 countries, except Canada, the United States, the Soviet Union and several others—what a nice assembly—there was practically only one African country, and it was South Africa. They voted in favour of two states, so look where we are now because no-one will complete the work already begun. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that if we did not see what is going on on television, if television did not show us what is happening in South Africa, perhaps we would not have this debate, and it would be very unfortunate. Perhaps it it necessary that worldwide television would show these images which strike us and vividly depict the injustices about which we hear so much in that country.

I listened on Monday, June 2, to Mgr. Tutu, and I thought to myself: What patience, Mr. Speaker! I would not have that patience, were I an African in black South Africa. He spoke to us about that last possible chance, trying to open our eyes to understanding. But what a message of kindness as against the impatience of people who have always been waiting for equality! Was that message hard to understand? Let us imagine for a moment, Mr. Speaker, that you are black, that you have a black wife and black children that you are going to be pushed around next Monday, on the 10th anniversary of the Soweto events, and that you and I are looking today at