

world, and we are doing our best to continue good relationships among the great Commonwealth of Nations. I think honourable senators must agree with me that, considering all that has been done during the last month, Canada has played a magnificent role in maintaining the peace of the world. I hope it will continue to be maintained.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. H. de M. Molson: Honourable senators,—

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Molson: Honourable senators, in speaking on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, I do so with some hesitation, partly because of the very brief time I have been a member of this chamber, and partly because I realize that my contribution will appear drab, indeed, in comparison with the eloquence of my colleagues whom I have been privileged to hear.

Nevertheless, I am encouraged to say my piece by the wonderfully warm welcome and friendly reception accorded by honourable senators to us when we came here last session. That welcome, followed by wholehearted co-operation and sincerely offered friendship, is more deeply appreciated by me, and I am sure those appointed with me, than I can say.

Honourable senators, at this special session the Speech from the Throne dealt with only two subjects; first, Canada's participation in the United Nations Emergency Force for the Middle East; and, second, provision for relief for the gallant Hungarian victims in their desire for freedom.

In the Middle East, for some time now, we have had an anti-European dictator trying to build himself an empire. His apparent aims were to become the "Fuehrer" of all Arabs and to exterminate the State of Israel. The way in which he disregarded the Suez Canal Treaty and obtained vast quantities of military supplies from the Russian areas showed the inevitability of trouble in those countries. For years provocation succeeded provocation. Finally Israel decided—rightly or wrongly—that her only chance of survival lay in military action.

There is no doubt in my mind that the vacillations of American foreign policy were in large measure responsible for these developments. It is also true that the United Nations showed itself incapable or unwilling to stop the constant armed skirmishes and the denial of the Suez to Israeli shipping.

With the Israeli advance into Egypt Britain and France felt that their own survival depended on the security of the canal. There

were perhaps even stronger reasons, such as another Soviet liberation of the whole Middle East—I use the word "liberation" in the Russian sense. I have not been told those reasons, so I cannot judge.

At this stage Canada was faced with perhaps one of the most important decisions of her young international life, when the United Nations met to deal with these emergencies—whether to follow the heart and let loyalty to the two nations which gave her birth dictate her actions, or to adhere to the United Nations Charter, which she had signed, and which denies war as an instrument of policy. That was a truly agonizing decision, but I am one of those—perhaps because we were never fully informed by our Allies—who believe that the British Commonwealth and perhaps the United Nations might not have survived the loss of confidence which any decision other than the one taken would have entailed.

I was very proud of Canada for coming up with the resolution for the formation of the United Nations force which was so warmly received at that time of crisis at the United Nations, and without in any way accepting any political implication, because I am not ashamed of being an Independent. I was extremely proud of our Secretary of State for External Affairs for his handling and presentation of our responsibility at the United Nations Assembly.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Molson: Honourable senators, we are now considering our action in the light of the United Nations' effort to restore peace and order. Perhaps I am not a particularly good judge of the wishes of the people of Canada. Certainly, I am the poorest authority on matters political. However, for what it is worth I believe that the duty of this honourable Senate to the people of this country is to deal with this matter as one of national urgency, to leave out politics and to act as efficiently and expeditiously as is within our power. Our position in the outside world will be a reflection of our actions now.

Honourable senators, I now come to the second reason for the calling of this special session, to vote relief for the Hungarians.

It is difficult for anyone brought up as Canadians are to speak rationally on this issue. Believing in God as we do, and accepting murder, rape, slavery, deportation, starvation, brain-washing and any form of torture to be weapons employed only by barbarians, how can we view the magnificent courage, the suffering and endurance of these Hungarian heroes without emotion? And, conversely, how can we look on the actions of Russians without emotion?