

*Supply—External Affairs*

and how can we arrive at satisfactory relationships unless it is admitted that every national entity in the Middle East is entitled to be treated as any other is treated? All such sovereign bodies must enjoy the status and protection which most states in a peaceful world should enjoy. Until general acceptance of this vital principle is attained, the Middle East area, or any other area of the world, will be confronted with the danger of a repetition of the tragic events of 1946, 1949, 1956 and the events of the last few weeks.

Now, Mr. Chairman, a settlement based on this important principle will require a considerable measure of co-operation on the part of all countries concerned in dealing with those issues which have been at the root of Middle East disputes and contentions. These issues include, for example, such important matters as the right of all countries to free and unimpeded commerce and the free use of international waterways vital to the maintenance of the economies of those countries.

• (5:50 p.m.)

From previous statements I have made and from those the Prime Minister made this afternoon it is clear that the government considers that the maintenance of the right of access to and innocent passage through the gulf of Aqaba is one of the key issues in the situation which has developed. Everything possible should be done through the United Nations to find arrangements which will settle this issue. Disputes over the implementation of the armistice agreement will again require close attention. This examination should include a review of the nature and scope of United Nations responsibilities for a new settlement in the area.

It is the belief of the government that among other problems requiring close attention is that of the future of the Palestine refugees, now numbering 1.5 million people. The United Nations relief and works agency for Palestinian refugees, known as UNRWA, was set up to assist the refugees, and Canada has played an important part in its maintenance. Since the inception of UNRWA Canada has been one of the main contributors to the agency. The Canadian government's total contribution in money and in kind during these years has been in the neighbourhood of \$21 million. For 1967 the Canadian government contribution in money and wheat flour to assist refugees is \$1.5 million and not \$500,000 as my hon. friend unintentionally, I know, mentioned a few moments ago. These amounts do not include the significant private

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

contributions of Canadian organizations and individuals. Canadian assistance to UNRWA is motivated primarily by humanitarian considerations.

**Mr. Brewin:** May I ask a question?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** May I finish? Contributions have been applied to relief and health services as well as to education and vocational training of the refugees.

**Mr. Brewin:** May I ask the minister whether the amount set aside for the Palestinian refugees in the estimates is not \$500,000.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** For 1967 we have pledged \$1.5 million.

**Mr. Brewin:** A lot of figures must be stuck together, because we saw the estimates this morning.

**The Chairman:** Order, please. I understand that a messenger is to come to the chamber from the other place and I do therefore leave the chair. Before doing so I must advise the minister that the time allotted to him has expired. Perhaps the committee would extend his time when we resume debate.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

#### PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE  
DEBATED

**Mr. Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), Industry—northern Ontario—Possible classification as designated area; the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), Public Service—Legislation to increase pensions of retired civil servants; the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Isabelle), Public Buildings—Construction of federal buildings in the Hull area.

#### THE ROYAL ASSENT

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Ottawa, June 8, 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable J. R. Cartwright, M.C., Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, acting as Deputy to His Excellency the Governor-General, will proceed