

*Supply—External Affairs*

The days ahead will not be easy: They will be hard. We have these hard, impelling problems that the hon. member for Oxford mentioned. We talk about the right of Israel to live. That is something that any UN member must talk about. Of course the people of Israel have a right to exist, but what happens if other people say it is a cardinal point of their foreign policy that Israel be destroyed? The mere utterance of the earlier statement puts you in contradiction with such people. Therefore it is extremely difficult to be regarded as uninvolved in the dispute. We are involved of course to the extent that we are UN members, but I would not think that we are impelled to go any further in our designation of who is right and who is wrong.

A lot of people have been wrong a lot of times. The record of reports which have been dealt with in various UN bodies indicates that. I am not one of those who are terribly proud of what Britain and France did in 1956. Britain has done wonderful things and fought many just wars. It has been a great champion of freedom, but if the book were written I think the Boer war and the invasion of Egypt would not be in one of the more glittering chapters. However, that is in the past.

Many errors have slipped into the record. Now we must be positive. We have to work very hard. How long will it take to sort out the boundaries? Will it be easy to say to a victorious army, "You now withdraw"? The normal thing is that the defeated withdraw, and yet we cannot expect that the spatial territorial gains can all be maintained.

● (9:50 p.m.)

Someone today mentioned the holy city of Jerusalem, a city which is holy to so many people. One is sorrowful that these areas so sacred to so many millions have been the scene again of slaying, and have echoed again to the sound of gunfire. Can anything new be done about Jerusalem? I know there were earlier efforts made to make it an international city. Should a new effort be made? Could that area with freedom of worship available to all be made a great UN centre? In my opinion Jordan is a country which has suffered a great deal. I think it is too easy for some of us to say that we could take a portion away from Jordan. This might not be an adequate solution. There is no simple solution here. The hon. member for Greenwood mentioned that it is not a question of east-west but rather a question of north-south. He is right to a great extent. But there are east-west involvements. Some people have long

been fishing in the troubled waters of the Middle East in an attempt to cause trouble. While there are many many reasons Israel is hated by its neighbours—if I may use that word in an unbiblical sense—one is because it is the greatest friend the west has in that area. I remember a very wise Israeli statesman telling me this at the United Nations.

Canada is a much better member of the United Nations than it ever was of the league of nations. I think we were a terrible member of the league of nations. As a charter member of the United Nations let us do our best to make the United Nations as strong as possible. I for one am not totally content with any explanation I have heard in respect of the voluntary withdrawal of the UNEF. I am not assessing the blame nor am I questioning the right of Egypt to so request, but I am not sure that the wisdom of yielding immediately to that request can be so easily defended. I believe it would be terribly difficult to fix the cease fire line. It would be tremendously difficult when one considers the kind of border Israel has, and when one considers the geography and topography of the land. It may be done. Something certainly will have to be done. The problem of the refugees surely must be attacked. I have read report after report from the commissioner. We are not even keeping pace with the problem; it is getting worse. We must do more, for now is the time—if there ever was a time when this was not the case—when the ills of mankind in any part of the world must be cured, for they affect all parts.

These constant agonies which threaten conflict are not something in which we can be casually disinterested. There can be crises in many parts of the globe. Let us improve the machinery and make it as strong as we can. I suppose in a way—this is the Holy Land we are talking about—we will end up in the final analysis asking ourselves, if we improve the machinery, will we strengthen our will to make it work. I noticed that the Prime Minister said a certain affirmation can be made but that the question is how to get the affirmation put into practice. Thomas Hobbes long long ago declared that man will not keep his covenants made. Perhaps if we become a little more alarmed at the kind of awful propensity we have for our own destruction—perhaps for such mundane reasons as that—we might become better international entities.

● I think Canada, although not a great power in a military sense and sometimes perhaps