

*External Affairs*

an important thing as this, and such an important ally as is that country, to get his facts straight.

I went all over that country of Yugoslavia. I found a police state trying hard not to be a police state and trying hard to move over into a spirit that is something of the spirit of western democracy. I remember on a Sunday morning going up to this very Hungarian border with our military attaché in Yugoslavia and seeing whole cities out on gas mask drill and civil defence drill. I remember seeing whole fields of boys, twelve-year-old boys, out under instructors having live rifle practice. I would say, Mr. Speaker, that if ever it should come to pass, which God forbid, that we should have a third world war, and if the Russians or their allies should attack Yugoslavia, in my opinion, every man, woman and child in that gallant country would fight, and in my opinion we could have no more sincere ally, because no matter whatever else Yugoslavs are, they are determined to have their own national liberty and not to be run by any other country from any other source whatsoever.

May I now come to even more serious matters. I regard the statements made by the hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), for whom I have not only respect but a good deal of affection, as very serious. It is quite an honour to the hon. gentleman, who has for so many years sponsored in Canada this idea of a bill of human rights, to be singled out and invited to go over to Jerusalem to give a series of lectures on the bill of rights. His colleagues in his own party and his colleagues in this House of Commons can be proud of the honour paid to him in that respect. But what were we to think last Thursday, Mr. Speaker, when that great champion of human liberties and civil rights in Canada stood up in his place as the official foreign affairs expert for the great Conservative party and made such an astounding statement as is to be found on page 3340 of *Hansard*:

I hope and trust that in return for the benefits of the present that are apparent in finding markets for surpluses Canada will not rush into trade with the U.S.S.R. and will give every consideration to the perilous possibilities inherent in contributing in meeting ferment in the Soviet union to which the Kremlin has found no better answer than more repression and the tyranny of purges.

He goes on to develop that idea. If the speech means anything at all, the speech of the hon. member for Prince Albert means that Canada should not sell any food to any communist country. A little further down he said:

In my opinion there is no more strategic commodity in the world than the production of agriculture, for after all, as I am sure the Prime

Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) found as he travelled in Asia, the H-weapon of communism in Asia is hunger.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member for Prince Albert will live to be ashamed that he ever made such a foolish statement as that. I cannot understand how he could stand up in his place today and ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) for further information about how we are going to sell our surplus wheat. We have a whole one year's crop of wheat that we have not begun to sell yet, and yet the most enlightened man in the Progressive Conservative party, some people say the only progressive one in the whole party, the one real known progressive in the party, stands up in his place and says that this great country of Canada should not sell food to any communist country. As a Canadian I say "shame", and as the member for Vancouver South, whose prosperity depends upon our shipping, I say that we certainly do not want any policy of "no truck or trade with the communists." We want a policy of peace with every country on earth. We want commerce with every country on earth, and I for one believe the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Macdonnell), the Conservative party's spokesman on finance, was on much more solid ground when he made reference during this session to the need for trade between Canada and all countries on earth.

I was also surprised at the conflict and contradiction between the arguments of the hon. member for Prince Albert and the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Fleming) because, speaking at four o'clock, I believe on Friday afternoon, the hon. member for Prince Albert suggested that Russia was in such a terribly bad way because of food shortage and famine. But speaking at 8.30 the same evening the hon. member for Eglinton raised a strong protest because the Canadian government did not protest more strongly because Russia was selling such immense quantities of food to Britain. The two arguments do not seem to fit together.

I must say I believe the most extraordinary argument of all was that advanced by the hon. member for Eglinton at the start of his speech when he made this statement, as reported at page 3355 of *Hansard*:

I must confess to not a little surprise and considerable regret that the Prime Minister, having now addressed the house twice on the subject of his tour of the world, including many of the important nations of the commonwealth, said not one word about the vital and beneficent role that the commonwealth is playing in the struggle for world peace today.

If there ever was a remarkable spectacle, certainly we saw it in the attitude of the spokesmen of the Conservative party in this