

*The Address—Mr. Green*

the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Rowe.

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, before the house adjourned last evening I had pointed out how unfortunate it was that the Canadian government had been so little concerned about the situation in the Suez area early in the present year. I went on to trace the happenings in that area and had reached the unlawful seizure of the canal by Egypt. Today I should like to continue along that line by pointing out that throughout all this time and subsequent to the seizure there had been a steady build-up of Russian arms in Egypt. The Prime Minister did not attempt yesterday to deny that fact, and of course he could not. In today's press we read that a similar build-up is going on in Syria.

On October 29 Israel, fearful that she was about to be attacked on all sides, attacked the Egyptians. The United Kingdom and France warned both Israel and Egypt that they must stop fighting within a period of 12 hours, otherwise the canal zone would be occupied. The United Kingdom had a perfect right to occupy the canal zone in the event of it being endangered by war. It had that right under the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian agreement signed, I believe, in October of 1954.

What was the reaction of Egypt? She at once took steps to block the canal, a most irresponsible action. She sank many vessels in the channel, yet is now asking other nations, including Canada, to pay to have the canal cleared. It will be interesting to know how much money Canada is to pay to help in that work. It was very strange yesterday that the Prime Minister of this country did not have one word to say in condemnation of the action of Egypt in blocking the canal or her other actions. His whole attitude to Egypt is unbelievably soft. Yet the minute the United Kingdom and France moved, Canada rushed to condemn them.

The man on the street in Canada is asking today, and has asked ever since the Canadian government took such action, why Canada took the lead in the attack on her friends. The Prime Minister smiles. He seems to think this is a laughing matter.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** I seem to think that the hon. gentleman is imagining things that never took place.

**Mr. Green:** Well, if the Prime Minister will not believe me perhaps he may believe the statement made by a great Canadian

Liberal newspaper, the *Vancouver Sun*. I have here an editorial which appeared in that paper on November 19, 1956.

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** That statement is also a laughing matter.

**Mr. Green:** Oh, I know everybody is wrong but the Prime Minister and his superman cabinet. The editorial is headed: "Ottawa Please Note. U.N. Must Face up to Russia or it has no Future." The *Sun* quotes a portion of the speech made by Sir Anthony Eden in which he uttered these words:

There is too much of a tendency in the world to hound the democracies because it is a safe thing to do, and to condone and even excuse dictatorships because they cannot be coerced.

Then the *Sun* goes on to say:

How true all this is. How fervently the nations, large and small, jumped on Britain and France. And Canada led the way with smug complacency. . . .

Judging from what Ottawa reporters are writing, Ottawa is filled with satisfaction with the eminence it appears to have attained by chastising its friends instead of standing by them in their attempt to save themselves and the free world from a great Russian conspiracy.

Surely the Canadian government could at least have waited. Australia waited in the security council. She abstained from voting. In the assembly Australia, New Zealand and South Africa abstained from voting, but not Canada. Canada had to be right up there in the front rank attacking the United Kingdom and France.

**Mr. Ferguson:** Tear your friends apart.

**Mr. Green:** In effect the Canadian government treated the United Kingdom and France as aggressors. When I mentioned last evening this vote that Canada cast with Russia and the United States in the assembly the Prime Minister blurted out with venom "We would do it again". That is his attitude today. It was not only his attitude a month ago but it is the attitude of the Prime Minister of Canada today.

It so happens that hundreds of thousands of Canadians have been associated with the people of the United Kingdom and France. They know something about those two countries and from personal experience they know a great deal about their people. They know that no other two countries have ever done so much to preserve our way of life. In the first war at Verdun hundreds of thousands of young Frenchmen gave their lives. At the Somme the very flower of the United Kingdom was wiped out in order to preserve the democratic way of life. In the second world war France and the United Kingdom stood up against the aggressors when other