

enough and that Canadians in fact favour disinvestment in South Africa.

I return to one of the comments of the Hon. Member for Nepean—Carleton. He suggested, on the basis of his observations in South Africa, that it might be the unions, or the unions in conjunction with the more Liberal minded corporations, which would lead the way to a more peaceful South Africa. He said there are many people in the churches trying, but they are divided. Many people in the universities are trying, but they are divided. He feels that the unions seem to be establishing a better unity. I know that the leading activities of union federations such as COSATU is to establish non-racial unions, and so at the basic level of earning a living blacks and whites are not only willing to work together, they are willing to defend the right to work together and risk punishment for working together.

● (1900)

I believe it is probably a fact that the unions are, if not the leading group in the changes towards peaceful living together in South Africa, at least one of the leading groups. In Canada we have the actions of the Canadian Labour Congress and other labour groups who are supporting the call for sanctions against South Africa. We have the research work of SACTU, the South African Congress of Trade Unions, to which I referred, which documents in great details the ways in which Canada participates in apartheid through trade with Africa. As Bishop Tutu has pointed out, there is not time for the long, slow process which leaves us all our comforts. What we have to do now is to stand against apartheid, with the blacks and the whites who oppose apartheid in South Africa, and with the blacks and the whites who oppose apartheid in Canada.

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues and yourself for the opportunity I have today of addressing this Chamber on the very important issue of apartheid. I want to give a special word of congratulations to two Members, first the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy) for having brought this initiative to the floor of the House today in order that we have this very important debate. Second, if I had to underline a contribution today of a second Member it would have to be the Hon. Member for Nepean—Carleton (Mr. Tupper). I listened very attentively to his remarks and I noticed that others have as well because, of course, he has been widely quoted since he made his contribution approximately one hour ago.

Many times in this House we make speeches which are viewed as being partisan, and I suppose I do my share of those, but this issue goes far beyond any partisan feeling we may have. I think even today in the speeches it was obvious that the three political Parties have different views on the solution to the problem we are discussing, but we all felt the same way about the fact that not only is that problem there, but that apartheid is reprehensible.

*S.O. 29*

Others have stated today that they had the opportunity of visiting South Africa. No doubt it would be an opportunity to have the privilege of visiting that country and to see its vast riches and resources which have been described to us by the Hon. Member for Essex—Windsor (Mr. Langdon), I believe, and others.

Perhaps the Ambassador of South Africa to this country and others, who are maybe watching their television right now and may have a different view than you and I have, might be saying, "What is he doing talking about when he has never seen South Africa?" The Ambassador and others, the same group of people who send us mountains of propaganda that all Hon. Members of this House get from time to time, are aware of the fact that we have not had the opportunity of seeing that land, but many people long before us have spoken on the evil of apartheid. Many people have written about it.

[*Translation*]

Earlier today, I had time to visit our Parliamentary Library, Mr. Speaker, to get some research material on apartheid in South Africa, and I saw shelf after shelf of documents and books on the subject. I even leafed through a book where I saw that at the United Nations, over the years a number of resolutions had been passed. Mr. Speaker, there was a full page of titles and dates of resolutions against apartheid.

[*English*]

There is no doubt that South Africa does not have a monopoly on evil. I do not think anyone suggests that it does. We have a record in our own country's history of occasions that are not that nice either. Need we remind ourselves of the deportation of the Acadians; of the way this country decided to do what it did to Louis Riel; of the way we denied the population of the Province of Ontario even an education in their own language through a long period of our history; of what we did to our Japanese-Canadian citizens; and even more so, of course, the way we slaughtered the innocent people, the natives of Newfoundland and many others to such a point, as has been pointed out today, that a whole tribe of people were hunted down and disappeared?

If there was an excuse, which I am not ready to accept that there was, it is perhaps that we did not know any better. If that excuse has any value at all, I am just wondering how the South African regime, in any way, shape or form, could rationalize what it is doing to its people.

Bishop Desmond Tutu came to Toronto only a few days ago and spoke to our colleagues in the Ontario Legislature and told them of how 73 per cent of the people of South Africa have no democratic rights. Until recently they even had to use the equivalent of a passport in order to get from one town to the other in their own country.

[*Translation*]

And Mr. Speaker, when we in this country, with all our freedoms, when we as legislators can come to Ottawa and go to our ridings, without fear, always enjoying those freedoms,