

*Supply—External Affairs*

gleams of hope. Where are they going to see the most hope, in the democratic country which is being built in India or the communist country which is being built in China?

We have a big task to do in Asia. There is a terrific amount of ignorance of India in the United States, and in many parts a great hatred of India and of Nehru. We have prided ourselves, not altogether rightly, in the past on being an interpreter between the United Kingdom and the United States, but perhaps we could perform a very useful function if we were to try to interpret India to the United States, and also, of course, the United States to India. I think that there we should be performing a very valuable public duty. But what we have to remember above all is that India has really no sense of identity with the western world. We are proud to call the Indians our friends; the relationship between the two countries is excellent; but India is going to look at its problems with the eyes of Asia and not with the eyes of North America. One of the problems the Indians have to overcome is the problem of poverty within their own country. All the people of Asia want equality with the west, but there is only one way they can get that equality, and that is by industrialization.

If they are going to industrialize within each country separately then they are going to depend upon the savings of the workers, the farmers and the businessmen of the country, and there are not enough savings to go in for industrialization in any wide way. The alternative is either, to use a word I dislike, the Sovietization of the economy or else we in the west who are blessed with a surfeit of the world's goods come to their aid. Again I say this should not be done bilaterally or in any other way but through the United Nations. That money should be lent at the lowest possible rates of interest and lent, of course, without any strings attached. If we do not rescue Asia from the worst menace, the worst menaces really, of industrialization, then I am afraid Asia will side with the communist powers no matter where they may be. It boils down to this one ineluctable fact, that the system which wins Asia wins the world.

**Mr. Patterson:** Mr. Chairman, today the committee is being called upon to approve the proposed expenditures for the Department of External Affairs for this year. The amount, of course, is of vital importance but I think there is something of greater importance than that and it is the policy which is being followed by the government and by the Department of External Affairs for the furtherance of which this money is requested. We have been considering in the past days the military

[Mr. Stewart (Winnipeg North).]

aspects of our national defence program, and this may be looked upon more as the political and diplomatic phase of that same program. The international scene remains, as has been stated, disturbed and threatening, and certainly with the events that are now taking place, especially Egypt's nationalization of the Suez canal, the situation seems to be becoming worse instead of better.

This afternoon I should like to refer to a number of problems that are confronting the world in general and at the same time remind ourselves of the place that Canada occupies on the stage of world affairs. It has been my privilege to be a member of the committee on external affairs for the past three sessions and I may say I have found it intensely interesting, for there we have the opportunity of getting a little more of the detailed information than is possible in a committee of the house or in any other way.

This year we had statements made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs followed by various officials of his department, Mr. Nik Cavell, General McNaughton and others who made reference to the particular matters for which they were responsible. Listening to the speech of the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the introduction of his estimates today, we had another view of the international situation from one who of course is in a position to know more about it than any other member of the house. I often think that we who take part in these debates speak at a great disadvantage because of the fact that we are dependent largely upon newspaper reports, magazine articles and brief reports given by the minister from time to time in trying to gather up fragments here and there and put them together in order to try to form a picture of world conditions from the various segments that are given to us.

However, as we listened to the minister today there was one thing that impressed me very definitely, and that was the continued firm attitude that the minister is taking with regard to Soviet attempts to, shall I say, disarm the western powers and get them to the place where they will soften up, relax their vigilance and thus perhaps give further advantage to the aggressive designs of Russian communism. I should like to commend the minister for the statement he made in this regard and for the attitude he has taken in this respect. Certainly we would request and urge that that policy be maintained in the interests of peace and freedom.

Therefore, in thinking of these particular matters that have been called to our attention today and having also listened to some