

are advancing money on the same basis include Australia, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, West Germany and Italy. It is estimated that the total sum put up by these countries will be \$10 million.

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** What about France?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Neither France nor Great Britain has been asked to lend any money at this time. It has not been deemed advisable that they should be.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** All the amounts the honourable senator has referred to are loans?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Yes.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Is it expected that the money will ever be repaid?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Yes, we have every expectation that it will be paid back. We do not know at this time how repayment will be provided for. It is possible that the money for this purpose will be raised by charges on the ships that use the canal when it has been cleared. That is one proposal. Another is that all states which are members of the United Nations organization shall contribute towards the clearing of the canal. If that idea is accepted and our share of the contribution is fixed at less than \$1 million, the difference will be paid to us. But I repeat that the item under consideration is not a gift, but a loan which must be accounted for.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Is it not a fact that Great Britain and France offered to clear the canal?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Whether they would have cleared the canal solely at their own expense I do not know.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** They have the equipment.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** They have the equipment, and some of it is being used at the canal. But even if the work had been assigned to France and Great Britain, those countries, I suppose, would have expected to be paid for it. The United Nations organization, including our own delegates, thought that the present arrangement was preferable, and Canada approved it. May I say I think the Senate is very happy to know that at this crucial time the honourable senator from Toronto-Spadina (Hon. Mr. Croll), who was in his seat a few minutes ago, is one of Canada's representatives at the United Nations.

**Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I am only sorry that he is not now in the chamber so that we could tell him how glad we are that he is taking such an interest in the work of the United Nations.

**Hon. Mr. Pouliot:** We miss him here when he is there.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I do not know whether honourable senators require any further information with respect to this last item. I reiterate that it is a loan to the United Nations to enable it to get on with the job of clearance while we continue to work out arrangements for the use of the canal by all ships which desire to use it.

**Hon. Mr. Bouffard:** Can the honourable Leader of the Government say what is the basis of the respective contributions? For example, why should the United States pay \$5 million and Canada \$1 million?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I cannot say how these various amounts were arrived at. Certain nations were asked to lend sums of money to enable the work to go on. It was known that \$10 million would be needed fairly soon. The United States' representatives undertook to put up \$5 million, and Canada's representatives were authorized to promise \$1 million. Canadians have taken a great interest in the crisis which centred in the canal, and I think it is generally agreed that our representatives have played a very creditable part in this connection. There is of course no relation between the amounts promised by Canada and the United States for this work and the assessments that are levied upon them in connection with the total expenditure of the United Nations organization.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Does the honourable Leader of the Government know how the other \$30 million will be provided?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** We do not know yet.

**Hon. Mr. McIntyre:** Is there any assurance that, after the canal has been cleared of the obstructions through the contributions made by the United States, Canada and other countries, it will not be blocked again?

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I cannot give definite assurance to that effect, but, in view of the manner in which our representatives have handled various crises which have arisen in the last six months, one may express the hope that they can be relied upon to do their part in bringing the representatives of the nations together in an effort to avoid the recurrence of a disaster such as happened last fall.

**Hon. John T. Haig:** Honourable senators, there are certain items in this bill with which I am sure the house can agree, but there are others with which I do not think we should agree at all. I propose to go over the items and point out my objections where they exist.