

Fifty thousand, sixty thousand, or seventy thousand refugees have left Hungary, but Hungary still lives, and I am satisfied that most of us in this chamber will live to see the day when she will be free again.

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

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** That will be one of our aims.

Now what did Canada do when Hungary was being overrun by these Russian hordes? Previously we had become signatories to the covenant in the United Nations Charter. We attended the United Nations Assembly and we joined in the strongest terms in condemning Russia for its treatment of Hungary. Also, as I mentioned during the speech of the Leader of the Opposition, our Prime Minister took it upon himself to write a letter to Mr. Bulganin appealing for a halt to the butchery practised by the Russian soldiers in Hungary. We did all in our power at that time to stop the massacre. Since then, we have thrown wide the doors of Canada to Hungarian refugees.

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

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** No country in the world has opened its doors wider to Hungarian refugees than has Canada. We welcome them. To facilitate their movement to Canada we have sent all the planes at our disposal to Austria, to which country large numbers of the refugees have fled. We have waived medical examinations and other usual requirements; we have even advanced loans to pay for their transportation.

Honourable senators, what more can we do? If any honourable member can suggest anything more that Canada can do to help the refugees from Hungary I assure you that the Government will implement his suggestion, if it is at all practicable.

We have done our best as a Government, as your representatives. And Parliament now is doing its best. There remains one thing that we can all do, and that is to assist these refugees when they arrive in Canada. They have had a hard time, have suffered many privations, and it is our duty and responsibility, yours and mine—the duty and responsibility of all the people of Canada—to welcome them here and to help them become established in their new homes.

Now, honourable senators, I think I should refer briefly to the steps which have been taken at the United Nations to assure, as far as possible that we should have peace in the world.

In the first place let me point out that we are members of the United Nations Organization, we are signatories to the covenant. We passed an act of Parliament in this chamber

by which we undertook to do certain things. Therefore, we just cannot say "Oh, we don't care now about the United Nations," or "We should not be in the United Nations". The fact is that we are in the United Nations. And even if we had not signed the covenant but had only given our word, surely our word is as good as our bond.

After the trouble arose in the Suez—and I am not going to condemn anyone because of what took place there, for I know the Israeli people were hard pressed—what did we find? We found that we were nearer to a world war because of what was happening. So the United Nations assembled, and the first proposal that was made was for consideration of the Suez problem. That is the proposal which, I take it, the Leader of the Opposition objects to.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** No, that is not correct.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** What else could we do? The proposal was that this matter of the Suez should be considered by the United Nations. Now, was not one of the main reasons for establishing the United Nations that it should deal with such matters? Could we have said, "Oh, no, this thing should not even be mentioned by the United Nations"? That is the attitude of the Russians: they want to do everything on their own. But, true to our covenant we voted for consideration of this matter by the United Nations. And when it came before the assembly the first proposal was a resolution for a cease-fire.

Now our purpose, notwithstanding what has been said by the Leader of the Opposition, was that the world should get out of this crisis without a war and without violating the principles and Charter of the United Nations. That was our main aim, to keep the world at peace. Another and equal aim was to hold the Commonwealth together. That at all times has been one of Canada's main purposes, and I say this country has played a creditable, indeed a marvellous, part in this respect. Indeed, but for Canadian action I do not believe the Commonwealth would be as secure as it is today. Ours is and will continue to be a great association of peoples, and Canada will do all in its power to keep the Commonwealth as great as it is.

The first resolution which was brought forward for the cessation of fighting was one which we did not approve. We thought it had been introduced too hurriedly and that it would not have the desired effect. There was a second cease-fire resolution, which had as its object not only to bring fighting to an end but to prevent military aid from being accorded to various other countries, because it might encourage them to line up on one side or the other and so, almost inevitably, precipitate a world conflict.