

External Affairs

to the provincial governments saying this action was being taken and would they mind looking after these people with active t.b. at their expense. I believe the action that has been taken so far is good. I wish it had gone much further.

In the interests of good federal-provincial relations and in the interests of doing something more toward keeping Canadians and provincial governments in the mood and the temperament to accept a larger number of refugees, I think the question of the cost of maintenance within our sanatoria should have been worked out much earlier with the provincial governments and that the federal government should have been prepared to accept the financial responsibility involved. We feel—and this has been made clear in other statements that have been issued—that Canada in this world refugee year should be prepared to take 2,500 tubercular refugees and that we should be able to show the world a modest example of good will to unfortunate human kind in other parts of the world.

Another topic that has been discussed a great deal in this debate is the matter of the recognition of the mainland government of China. The members of this group have been consistent in our attitude on this question, and I imagine that in some instances it is misunderstood. Some people may feel that it is being soft with communism to feel that it is time we recognized the mainland government of China. I do not agree at all with that concept. I feel that China will be recognized by the Canadian government. I am certain that the moment the United States government recognizes the government of China this government will move very rapidly soon afterwards. I do not think it is a question of the attitude of the nations in southeast Asia. I think it is something that is a practical move for peace in international affairs. It is impossible to quarantine 650 million people. It is impossible to have effective disarmament talks and agreements if, to begin with, we say we will not recognize the government of 650 million people. How can we assure the peace of the world—and that means peace for Canada—if we are going to say, by failing to recognize China, that in the field of international relations, and on the question of disarmament and the control of nuclear weapons, China is beyond the pale?

Mr. Green: Before the hon. member goes further on that point, may I ask him whether his party believes we should agree to the stand taken by red China, namely that they must be given Formosa before they will acknowledge any recognition?

Mr. Argue: The answer to that question is no. I think that is quite a definite answer.

Mr. Pearson: How are we going to recognize them then?

Mr. Argue: I think it is possible to recognize the government of mainland China, to say that they should be represented at the United Nations, be prepared to exchange diplomatic representatives and at the same time say that the people of Taiwan should have the opportunity to select their own form of government, whether it be joining mainland China or whether it be something else.

Mr. Green: May I ask the hon. member this question? What about that statement I read the other day to the effect that red China would not accept recognition on that basis and that before she would accept recognition and exchange representatives the other countries would have to admit that she was entitled to Formosa?

Mr. Argue: Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs said he read a statement the other day.

Mr. Green: That is the fact. That is the position taken by them.

Mr. Argue: I think we would be in a much stronger position if the minister were to stand up now and say that Canada is providing diplomatic recognition of China and that we are prepared to take steps forthwith to bring about that recognition.

Mr. Speakman: Will the hon. member permit a further question?

Mr. Argue: Of course, what we do is lecture China on moral questions and say that once she has expiated her sins we will be prepared to recognize her. In other words, the position taken by this government is not as simple as one might infer it to be from the questions that have been raised by the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Speakman: Will the hon. member permit a further question?

Mr. Argue: As soon as I sit down I shall be pleased to hear from the hon. gentleman.

The Leader of the Opposition came very close to saying that China should be recognized because he had many thoughts as to ways in which, in a piecemeal method, China should be brought into the councils of the world. However, on the question of recognition and his general attitude, as reported at page 977 of *Hansard*, he said this:

This problem is one that is continually with us and it will have to be solved. It is for the government to make up its mind what kind of solution it should seek.

That is scarcely a policy. We are advancing the proposal that China should be recognized by Canada, and should be recognized now