

Apartheid

people, the people who are officially designated as coloured. They are a mixture between white and the indigenous Hottentot population. Most of these people work on farms, either permanently or seasonally. They badly need the income that is generated from that activity. With our sanctions, in the worst cases, they will go hungry as a result of what we have done to them. I cannot believe that Canadians would willingly and knowingly use hunger as a weapon. There are too many of our people who have had first-hand experience with this type of policy in Ukraine and elsewhere. I cannot see how we would ever deliberately use that tactic against somebody else.

Our policy is misguided, in my opinion, and probably stems from listening to the few self-appointed spokesmen who themselves will not be affected by sanctions. We have not listened to the vast majority of South Africans who want the same things of life as we do. They want jobs, education for their children, a decent standard of living and opportunity for the future. I do not know of one single elected leader, somebody who is responsible to the people who elected him—

Mr. Manly: Who the hell has a chance to vote there? They don't even have a chance to vote!

Mr. Nickerson:—either municipally, nationally, or tribally—or people of any colour or religion—who approves of these trade sanctions. It is not necessary to burn South Africa to the ground. It is not necessary to destroy it so that magically some new Phoenix-like society can arise from the ashes.

Nearly all the petty segregation has already been set aside in that country. There are still remaining problems, such as with respect to the Group Areas Act that has to go. But already more and more grey areas are appearing.

Second, there is the constitutional challenges. Municipally, there are now mayors and councillors of all colours. Nationally, there is a tripartite Parliament, albeit without black representation. That has to change, too.

Measures have been taken to ensure a role for all South Africans in the executive branch of government, witness the national council that has been established. This is admittedly imperfect but it is not a lot different, say, from the situation that existed in the United States a generation ago.

I have never met a South African of any colour, and I have met many, whom I did not like. I have a great admiration for the people of good will of this embattled country who are trying to resolve their problems while having to put up with terrorism at home and misguided sanctions imposed from abroad, not to mention the existence of certain unfriendly neighbouring states liberally supplied with Soviet weaponry.

In Canada, we should be encouraging visits and exchanges between ourselves and South Africa so that we can learn more about each other and each other's problems. We should trade with and invest in South Africa. That will make change come about easier in that country. We should set a good example by

putting our own house in order. There is some room for improvement on that score, even in Canada.

• (1720)

I find some issues difficult to understand, for example, the Japanese treatment of its citizens of Korean origin who were originally brought over there as slave labour during the war. We are remarkably quiet on that issue. When the Government of France sends troops to New Caledonia, we do not hear too much from the Government of Canada. When there is a slaughter of 1,000 Dinka tribesmen in the Sudan, there is a small write-up of one paragraph on page 16 of the newspaper and there is not much said by the Government of Canada. Yet it seems that there is no condemnation too severe when it comes to South Africa. That is something that I cannot understand. This country has made a great effort to put things right, an effort that has not been made in other parts of the world.

With this presentation this afternoon, I do not expect to change everyone's view overnight, because there is a lot of learning to be done. There is too much misinformation around. What I hope will come out of this debate today is that people will start to think a little more than they have in the past. I hope that they will think positively and constructively in order that we can take the action to ensure that South Africa can be welcomed back into the family of nations as soon as possible.

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to speak on this most misguided motion. The misguided nature of the motion was only equalled by the misguided speech that we just heard. The motion itself speaks about the concern for the less well off citizens. The people whom we are most concerned about in South Africa today cannot be regarded as citizens, because they do not have the rights of citizens. The laws in that country deny them the rights of citizens. Therefore, the motion itself is badly worded as well as misdirected.

The Hon. Member for Western Arctic (Mr. Nickerson) talks about the hardships that sanctions will impose upon poor people. He talked about the discouragement of tourism. The question that perhaps we should face is, does tourism help the poorest of the poor in Third World countries, or rather does it not encourage an elite to scoop up the beauty and the wealth of those countries and make them available to wealthy people from the first world who can take advantage of it, and a few people from the Third World who are lucky if they can get those jobs mentioned by the Hon. Member as chambermaids or servants, servants to others in their own country? I do not think that tourism is the answer for Third World countries. That is not the type of development that is needed.

The Hon. Member talked about agriculture. What type of agriculture did the Hon. Member talk about? Agriculture producing food for other peoples rather than themselves; producing food on farms and ranches that are not owned by blacks but by a white supremacist class that has put apartheid