

*Supply—External Affairs*

an exit permit to any Jew who can show a visa to Palestine, and to any Jewish child under ten years of age for whom entry can be secured to any of the allied countries.

We can all express abhorrence of the barbarity of the nazis. We can repeat over and over that the whole world is outraged at what has gone on in Central Europe with regard to this unfortunate population. But I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that more outrageous is to express sentiments of abhorrence while, by our actions, showing ourselves willing to do nothing. The time has arrived when the united nations—which includes Canada—must take action in this matter, and it is easily taken. We must either be rescuers or accomplices. I note that at the Burma conference on May 19, 1943, Mr. Eden made this statement:

We shall do everything in our power to help these people.

The time has come to do the helping. Trains still run from Budapest to Istanbul, from Hungary to Turkey. With Turkey now breaking with Germany it should not be difficult to secure cooperation in the Turkish capital. There are trains running to-day from the Turkish capital to Haifa in Palestine.

We have not done so very badly during the last year. Some 9,000 refugees have entered Palestine. That is a trickle, it is true, but still it is 9,000; it might be worse. But there remain only 20,000 visas, according to the white paper against which I spoke in February last, and these are being reserved for refugees from the occupied countries. It is time that Christian nations express in a practical way what they intend to do with regard to the plight of the Jews in Hungary and elsewhere.

There is no difficulty in absorbing large numbers of these people in Palestine. I understand that discussion are now going on between the authorities of Palestine and those of Egypt to bring in 15,000 Egyptian labourers in order to meet the man-power shortage in Palestine. Large numbers of these refugees could be accommodated in Palestine to-day if the British empire governments and the United States would insist that the door be opened, as it was intended to be opened at the close of the last war, and give these poor people the haven of refuge for which they have worked and struggled and which they now need so tragically.

I once had a remarkable Jewish friend, who used to say that the mission of the Jews was to bring Christianity to the Christians. It occurs to me that if there ever was a time in world history when Christians might bring a little Christianity to the Jews, that time is now. I know our Prime Minister is sympathetic in this matter. He has never turned a

[Mr. Roebuck.]

deaf ear to any one in distress, and from his door no lame dog has ever limped unhelped. I appeal to him to give this matter the most effective handling of which his department is capable.

Mr. A. R. ADAMSON (York West): Mr. Speaker, I consider this debate probably the most important that we could have in this House of Commons at this time, because the future that we shall play in the world depends upon our external policy. I listened this morning to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) with a great deal of attention; I listened for some statement which would show the awareness of our changed position in the shrunken world of to-day, but I did not hear it. In fact the Prime Minister said that his policy remained the same, and with that I must earnestly disagree.

During a short time in the lifetime of most of us we have been by the side of England in three wars being fought outside the North American continent. The first was the South African war, and the second and third were the great wars against Germany and now against Japan. Those wars were fought to preserve the freedom of the world. It was said by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that when England is at war Canada is also at war. This has been proved true. No matter what may be the clauses in the statute of Westminster the *de facto* condition is that if England is at war, Canada will also be at war.

Recent developments have complicated our position with regard to the United States, and I believe it is now also a fact that if the United States is at war with a major power, Canada will be also at war whether we like it or not. In any Pacific struggle where the United States is a major belligerent we must, from the very fact of geography, become involved. This applies with equal force to Japan, to China and to Russia. There is no use in trying to avoid the consideration of these unpleasant facts; they must be faced.

Geography which has given Canada a false sense of security in the past is now, owing to the air routes of the world, putting a definite end to our isolation. It has forced us right into the centre of world affairs. We are now at the cross-roads of Europe and Asia, and no longer are we merely the stately mistress of the north, as we were called in Kipling's poem.

If our domestic future holds anything, we can look forward to a population of 20,000,000 within our own lifetime. With a forceful development of our natural resources and with a population such as this our weight in