

that he is at the Assembly at the present time. As the Canadian representative on one of the most important committees he has contributed much to its work, and is a representative, I assure you, of whom the Senate can be justly proud.

At all times I found the proceedings at the United Nations interesting, frequently disturbing and sometimes frightening. Premier Khrushchev was at his worst both in mood and in language during the first week of my stay, which was, to the delight and relief of many, the last week of his. Any mellowness he had shown during the first weeks of his sojourn in New York had gone, and he was showing little restraint either in language or actions—to wit, the shoe desk-pounding when condemning the actions of the representatives of the other nations.

Premier Khrushchev completely dominated the proceedings: he spoke when he liked, and on whatever he liked. I am sure that his purpose, if not to destroy the United Nations, was, at least, to change it into an organization more in line with the principles and workings of the communist bodies. To do that he had to woo and win the Afro-Asian group of nations, most of which had only recently emerged from colonialism into nationhood. The Afro-Asian group of nations definitely holds the balance of power in what is now a gathering of 99 nations. The Afro-Asians, if they vote as a group, in association with either the West or the East, can carry or veto any motion, even if that motion is being considered in a plenary session which requires a two-thirds majority. Therefore, you will see what a powerful group they comprise. However, I can assure you that the Asians, and especially the Africans, did not like the antics, the blustering, the boastings and the bellicose conduct of the Russian premier. They did not take kindly to his personal attacks on Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, for whom they have the highest regard; and Mr. Khrushchev's suggestion that the Secretary General be replaced by a committee of three men seemed to them, as it did to most others, unrealistic, impractical and totally unworkable.

Notwithstanding all this, honourable senators, Mr. Khrushchev is giving the Secretary General a rough time of it and is making his position a most difficult one. In fact, I am afraid that his position is not even too secure now. Mr. Hammarskjöld is an unbiased, patient, industrious and sincere administrator, who is endeavouring amidst the most difficult circumstances to act in a manner which is equally fair to the East and the West—in fact, in a manner fair to all. His all-consuming aim is to maintain peace throughout the world and it is indeed

unfortunate, not only for him but for the whole peace-loving world, that he should be so unfairly attacked at this time of stress and strain and general world tension.

Honourable senators, it was not my privilege to be in New York when the Prime Minister of Canada was there. I am glad he went there, because the United Nations Organization has grown to such importance that now it is the heads of state who go to its meetings from time to time. Honourable senators will recall that the President of the United States was there, as were the Prime Minister of England and the King of Denmark. I could give a long list of heads of state who felt that this organization was of such importance that they had to attend. Therefore, I am glad that our Prime Minister went.

The address of the Prime Minister was well received, although some objection was taken to the proposal advanced by him and by the United States delegates that we should establish a surplus food bank. Some of the nations felt that the idea of setting up a food bank was just a way for the United States and Canada to unload their wheat surplus on the rest of the world. Of course, at the United Nations no subject comes up but someone looks upon it with suspicion, and we could expect it in this instance. Personally I think the idea of a food bank is a good one, and I am sure most of our people think so.

I am not saying that our Prime Minister got his idea from someone else, but when he mentioned the proposal of a food bank I recalled a speech that was delivered in this house on November 5, 1957, by none other than the senior senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Lambert), in which he made the same proposal. If honourable senators will read the speech to which I refer they will see that the honourable senator had the same idea in mind. I am not suggesting that the Prime Minister got his idea from the honourable senator, though that may be the case, or it may be an instance of great minds thinking alike.

As honourable senators are aware, the 99 nations which go to make up the United Nations are divided into three groups: the great powers, the smaller middle nations, and the Afro-Asian group. Over the years Canada has been recognized as the leader of the small and middle powers. She has established for herself a reputation of being faithful to her proven friends, and at the same time a reputation for independent thought and decision based on honest convictions. It was for these qualities that Canada was respected by all the nations and, as I have said, emerged as a leader of the small and middle powers. With this reputation Canada was a country to which the Afro-Asian group naturally looked for leadership. Progress was being