

*Apartheid*

full role. Their country is a country like ours which has a parliamentary system, and it takes time to make these changes. It is very difficult to do it overnight.

I know that a fantastic amount of intellectual effort has been put into this problem by the Government at various levels, the academic and business community and people on practically every street corner of the country. I would suggest something we could do as an experiment. Whenever we meet a South African, and it does not really matter what colour, race, or whatever else he or she might be, we should sit down with that person and try to talk about the weather or anything other than the apartheid policy and the initiatives to change it. We will find we cannot get past five minutes because within five minutes that person is going to tell us what they are doing to change it and what his or her ideas are and all about the debate going on in that country. If the stated reason for the imposition of apartheid ever existed in the past, it certainly does not exist today. South Africans themselves are well aware of the problem and are well on the way to a solution.

In looking at some of the sanctions we have imposed, it is not too difficult to see a certain air of selfishness about them. We continue, for example, to import some of the materials, such as chrome ore from South Africa, which is our cheapest source of supply, but on the other side, we will not buy its coal or steel. Perhaps there is an element of protectionism for our own industry in that. I sometimes wonder about the ban on the kruggerand, and to what extent that was put on to help the sales of the Canadian Maple Leaf gold coin rather than to effect any social change in that country.

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What are the effects of the sanctions? What they do is to impose economic hardships on the people of that country. They create unemployment. They increase the cost of living and reduce the standard of living. Most, of course, can be avoided one way or another. It is not hard to figure out ways to get around them. But there is a cost to this, and this cost is borne by the consumers in that country.

The increase in cost has the most effect on those who already have the lowest standard of living. That is always the case, and it is the case there. We also have to remember that South Africa is the economic giant of southern Africa. The health of the neighbouring countries is very much dependent on the economic health of South Africa itself. So sanctions against that country also have a negative effect. They hurt people in countries such as Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Zambia and the surrounding areas.

Just as an aside, it is interesting to note the number in very many cases of illegal immigrants or refugees coming in to South Africa from countries such as Mozambique and these others what one might call international basket cases surrounding this area. If it were not for South Africa, those countries would be in an even worse state than they are today. It is probably the mineworkers' earnings that just manage to

keep Mozambique partially afloat. If the mineworkers were all told to go home, then that country would be in a worse state than it is now.

From where does the main opposition with respect to the process of dismantlement of apartheid come? Generally speaking, it comes from that sector of the white population which is in the lowest economic bracket. It is not the president of the bank or the insurance company who wants to keep apartheid. He is going to keep his job regardless. The same thing is true with respect to the chief geologist in the mine. He can go anywhere in the world to make a living. He is still going to be chief geologist before or after. It is the locomotive driver and the union member at the bottom of the economic ladder who see the jobs being taken away from them. They see themselves being left destitute or not enjoying the present advantages. That is where the opposition comes from. Sanctions, by lowering the employment rates, creating unemployment, and making it difficult for people to maintain those jobs and that standard of living are exaggerating and exacerbating this problem.

When times are good and the labour force is expanding, that does not have to be bothered with so much, one's job is secure and there is less resistance to change. But sanctions have had exactly the opposite effect. They have generated more opposition to change and the policies that the South African Government would like to pursue.

It is an observation that unequal employment practices are concentrated in the older industries, the railways and the mines. It is the new industries, petrochemicals and plastics, that very often have been financed by outside capital where people have been treated equally in the job place. Disinvestment therefore again has a negative effect.

Just one aside to what disinvestment has done. It has enabled the South Africans to take control of their own economy at a few cents on the dollar. They have been able to buy their industries back cheaply, which was not the case in Canada under the regime of the previous Government when we had to pay something of a premium to regain control of certain of our industries, such as the petroleum business.

In my motion I refer to sanctions which have the worst effect on those who we are presumably trying to help the most. I would like to cite two examples of this. First, there is our discouragement of tourism. The hotel trade and the tourist industry in South Africa, just as is the case in Canada, is an intensive employer of labour, very much of which is unskilled and semi-skilled. How many chambermaids and how many kitchen staff have been laid off as a result of our policy? I just wish that when our Minister went to that country he would have had the opportunity to speak to some of the chambermaids. Undoubtedly, they would have told him what their view with respect to sanctions are.

Another example is with respect to farm products, apples, grapes, wine, et cetera. Most of these come from the fruit growing area of Cape Province, the home of the coloured