

night oil, devising the programme which is to be carried out, if all goes according to plan, by the organization now generally known by the shortened title of UNRRA. Most of us, however, are still young enough to remember vaguely what our professors in logic and philosophy told us about the dangers of reasoning from the particular to the general. As UNRRA is definitely a particular phase of a very general problem, I think, therefore, we would be well advised to take a brief glance at the general problem first, and then with that in view, give detailed attention to this particular phase.

UNRRA is destined to be a sort of connecting link between what we are at the present moment doing to win the war and what we hope to do to win the peace, and to create such a peace that we shall have no losers, nothing but winners all over the world. We shall never be able to agree as to the connecting link unless we can agree on the big problem to which it leads.

The after-war problem divides into two sections, one that will face us at home, and one that has to be dealt with abroad. These are really just two different phases of the one and only problem, but we may have difficulty in getting all our people, or all the people of other countries, to realize it. If China's problem is that her people are starving because they cannot get grain, and if Canada's problem is that her people are starving because they cannot get rid of their grain, there is a direct association between the two problems. But it is hard to get a mining prospector in North Bay to realize that he may be down and out and unable to find a fresh grubstake, because a million people are starving along the Yangtze valley; nor would it be easy to get the starving Chinese to realize that the fact of a mining slump in northern Canada was in any way responsible for their plight.

And yet, if we are to get a solution of this problem, we must have all the countries of the world participating in it. Otherwise, it will not work. Because as soon as one little wheel goes out of gear, the whole clockwork goes wrong. And we cannot have Canada cooperate whole-heartedly in a world-wide programme unless and until the big majority of about five million adults in this country have agreed on it. And to get them to agree, even on the general principles, you must make them understand the definite economic relationship between the starving Chinese in the Yangtze valley or, if you like, a million starving workers in Czechoslovakia, and the unemployed miner in Sudbury or a down-and-out prospector on the shores of Great Bear lake.

Those of us who realize the intensely growing interrelation between national and interna-

tional problems the world over, however, realize that the victim nations, the ravaged nations, must be helped back on their feet, because there is not a chance in the world of Canada going ahead to steadily increasing happiness and prosperity if half of Europe is in the depths of economic misery and despair.

As an American writer, addressing these words to citizens of his own country, has well said:

The cost of participating with the united nations in civilian relief, in comparison with the cost of any alternative course, is almost insignificant. One consequence of failing to do so would be the lengthening and protraction of the period of paralyzed and stagnant trade. Each month that European and Asiatic markets are unable to buy our goods costs us millions of dollars. The second consequence is that fighting would not stop with the armistice. We would be setting the stage for world war No. 3.

It is in the light of these considerations that some forty-four nations, belonging to the group we know as the united nations, met at the White House at Washington and signed the agreement whereby was created the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the destiny of which is to follow up the armed forces in their advance in Europe and in the far east, and bridge the gap between enemy occupation and independent, prosperous civilian administration.

UNRRA does not propose to take on the huge problem of creating a stable world, a world in which peace will prevail, the world which President Roosevelt was looking forward to when he spoke recently of a "common determination to build for the future a world of decency, and security and above all, peace." That is a problem for which we must prepare, but which cannot be handled now. The essential factors in the problem are not yet known. Many of them will not be known until the enemy has ceased to be the invader and the conqueror anywhere in the world; until he has become the invaded, the conquered, the beaten dog asking for mercy and relief. UNRRA is created to deal with the immediate problem of bringing urgent needed relief to peoples who have just been freed from the conqueror's yoke.

At the great conference which representatives of the united nations held at Atlantic City to lay the foundations of this work, the scope of UNRRA's activities was defined in a resolution which I will read to you:

The supplies and services of which the administration will seek to ensure the provision fall under four heads:

1. Relief supplies: essential consumer goods to meet immediate needs, such as food, fuel, clothing, shelter, medical supplies.

2. Relief services, such as health and welfare, assistance in caring for and maintaining records of, persons who, by reason of war, have been