

"CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS 1951-52"

Canada and the United Nations 1951-52 is the sixth in a series of reports which are already well known in Canada and abroad as authoritative reference works not only on Canadian participation in the United Nations, but on all aspects of the activities of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies.

Earlier editions* have dealt with the events of a single calendar year. *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52* covers the 18-month period from January 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952. Although its scope is therefore greater, the book has been kept to approximately the same size as *Canada and the United Nations 1950*. This has been done without sacrificing any essentials by some condensation in the body of the book and by reducing the number of statements and resolutions in the appendices. The appendices still contain much valuable reference material, including a description of the procedures followed by the Canadian Government in dealing with United Nations matters.

The work of the United Nations is often presented in a distorted way. Too much emphasis is placed on political and security problems and particularly on those problems whose solution is prevented by the division between the Soviet world and the free world; as a result the United Nations is blamed, or written off as a failure. "Yet the division would exist," the Secretary of State for External Affairs writes in his Foreword to *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, "and almost certainly in a more dangerous form, if there were no world organization. Because the United Nations is a mirror of the world, we should not say that it has failed because it reflects an unhappy picture." Mr. Pearson also emphasizes that it is incorrect to think of international affairs "solely in terms of the cold war, or of fear and insecurity solely in terms of Soviet imperialism. Even if Communism had never been invented, and even if the Soviet Union were located on a different planet, a number of serious differences within the free world would remain."

Canada and the United Nations seeks to present the United Nations in more balanced perspective. The importance of such headline subjects as Korea and disarmament — where Soviet-Western differences are most obvious — is not minimized, but full attention is also paid to less spectacular matters in which the United Nations has often achieved notable successes.

The book also deals very fully with the many United Nations activities which have nothing to do with political and security problems — particularly with its activities in the economic and social field. Of these, technical assistance to under-developed countries and aid for the economic development of under-developed countries have assumed special importance during the period reviewed by *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, and they are the subjects of two detailed articles in the book's economic and social section. In his Foreword, Mr. Pearson notes that "a difference of opinion over degree and pace" in economic development has led to a rift in the United Nations between the developed and under-developed countries. He expresses the opinion, however, that, while the importance of this rift should not be minimized, it is not a disagreement on basic principles: "The rift, happily, is not a fundamental one; there is no reason why it should be a permanent one."

Other sections of the book deal with the work of each of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, with the difficult problems facing the United Nations in connection with dependent territories, with international legal problems and the International Court of Justice, and with United Nations financial and administrative questions. The appendices also contain the 1952 budget of the United Nations, scales of contributions of member states, and the budget totals of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies in recent years, with Canadian contributions.

The French-language version of this report — *Le Canada et les Nations Unies* — will be published in November.

**The United Nations, 1946, Canada at the United Nations, 1947, Canada and the United Nations, 1948, Canada and the United Nations, 1949, Canada and the United Nations, 1950*. Editions for 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 are still available from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa, at 50 cents per copy.