

members. Advances from the working capital fund up to a total of \$5,000,000 were authorized, to be repaid by the end of 1950. An interest-free loan of \$2,800,000 from the International Refugee Organization was to be sought, while various specialized agencies and private groups and organizations were also asked to furnish assistance within the framework of the plan.

The body which is to carry out the programme is to be known as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The new agency will be expected to take over from UNRPR on April 1, 1950. It is to be aided by an advisory commission consisting of representatives of France, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. Its technical assistance activities are to be coordinated with the Technical Assistance Programme of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

A recommendation of the Economic Survey Mission which was not approved by the Assembly related to the proposed cutting down of the relief rolls from an estimated 1,019,000 to an estimated 652,000 by January 1, 1950. In issuing rations and relief supplies made available from a variety of sources the operating agencies in refugee centres had been finding it increasingly difficult to differentiate between genuine refugees and local inhabitants rendered destitute either by the influx of refugees or by abnormal conditions. The agencies were convinced that the disturbances which would occur if the proposed reduction was carried into effect would make their own position in the Middle East impossible. After hearing a representative of the International Red Cross on the subject, the committee of the Assembly recommended that the Secretary-General should merely be asked to try to reduce the number of rations by progressive stages in cooperation with the operating agencies. This the agencies were willing to attempt.

When Count Bernadotte, the Mediator for Palestine, first appealed to members of the United Nations on August 16, 1948, for aid for Palestinian refugees, the Canadian Government contributed 40,000 cases of canned fish valued at \$254,000. The cost of shipping this food to the Middle East was borne by the Canadian Red Cross in the amount of \$34,000.

The Assembly resolution of November 19, 1948, asking for voluntary contributions in cash or kind to make up a total of \$32,000,000 brought a further response from Canada, which sent the following additional shipments:

600 tons wheat flour valued at.....	\$ 59,000	
cost of transportation.....	15,000	\$ 74,000
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38,000 bushels dried white beans.....	\$158,000	
cost of transportation.....	37,000	\$195,000
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18,160 cases canned fish.....	\$175,000	
cost of transportation.....	23,000	\$198,000
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Total.....		\$467,000

Canada also made an indirect but substantial contribution by reason of its share in the \$6,000,000 which UNICEF voted in November 1948 to