

United Nations in this field greatly surpass those of the old League of Nations and reflect a new spirit of international co-operation in this post-war period."

In his able report to this Committee, Mr. Philippe de Seynes referred to the great progress which has been made over the past ten years. He pointed out that this progress was not solely the result of the efforts made at the national level by governments and peoples. He said that "some credit at least is due to the system of international co-operation which has developed in a variety of forms since the war and, within which, the United Nations and the agencies centered on it have played a part which should not be under-estimated." We might say that his words "some credit at least" might be strengthened by stating that the co-operative activity within the United Nations in the field of economic development is unprecedented in international affairs and that we have good reason to be hopeful for the future.

The benefits are not all tangible and material. Undoubtedly, in tackling this work, in embarking on this new experiment, the United Nations has at times stirred the world conscience and has created a new awareness of the problems involved. At the same time, in debates such as the one which is now going on and in the work of the Specialized Agencies, those receiving assistance are reminded of their responsibilities in making these new co-operative ventures fully effective.

In order that this co-operative activity may attain the greatest possible success, it is, of course, important that the Organization function harmoniously and that its discussions reflect a genuine sense of concord. Unless, in particular, political questions are dealt with moderately and constructively, the prestige of the Organization will suffer, and opportunities to develop its operations in the fields with which we are directly concerned are bound to be adversely affected, since the conduct of the Organization as a whole will affect its actions in the vital problems of economic development. This was one of the considerations which the Canadian representative in the General Assembly, a few weeks ago expressed, his views on the importance of a sense of responsibility and of moderation.

In another sense, too, it is important that United Nations activities develop constructively and that the prestige of the Organization be raised. In so far as the United Nations fails to contribute effectively to the reduction of international tensions, heavy defence budgets in all countries must be maintained, and financial and technical assistance projects may have to be reduced or postponed. It is elementary to state that were it possible to arrive at agreement on disarmament, Canada for example, would with other nations, be able to look at the problems of economic development abroad with more serenity of mind and assurance of purpose.

There is another point to which I must refer. The principle of co-operative assistance is a developing one, but it will of course require some time to come to maturity. As it so does, the United Nations itself will develop in strength and effectiveness, for the climate in which nations may prosper will have improved. Greater effectiveness will lead to a greater confidence and this, in turn, will lead to greater support for the United Nations