

The Canadian Attitude

The Canadian representative made known the Canadian attitude to the proposed establishment of an Interim Committee on October 18. He said that the failure of the United Nations to achieve success was largely due to the failure of the Security Council to agree within itself. One way of escape from this dilemma lay in expanding and in strengthening the functions of the General Assembly and it was in this light that he saw the value of the Interim Committee. Further reasons for the establishment of this Committee were the Assembly's crowded agenda and the need for careful study of some of the more complicated items on this agenda. In the Canadian view there was no doubt that the Interim Committee was constitutional. The Committee should not be given wide powers at its inception but should be allowed to take up all matters relating to peace and security which were within the competence of the General Assembly. He concluded by saying:

"Mr. Chairman, we are building in the United Nations a structure for international co-operation which must endure. Our hopes depend upon its success. Its weakness lessens the security of each one of us. If the experiment which we are contemplating will have the effect of making the organization more effective, and that is our only purpose in supporting it, it will repay a thousand-fold the effort which we shall expend upon it. The Canadian delegation will gladly co-operate in making the experiment in the hope that the instrument we are creating may help speedily to remove the circumstances which make it necessary."¹

¹The full text of the statement by the Canadian representative is given in Appendix I, T, pp. 212 to 215.