

in Canada and elsewhere who are engaged in co-operating with similar individuals and groups in other countries to gain increasing recognition and public support for their work. This should permit them to consolidate or expand their existing activities, and perhaps to develop new activities. As a result of International Co-operation Year comparable organizations in different countries which are not now in contact should be able to enter into fruitful relations to their mutual benefit. The Year might also lead, through international assistance and encouragement, to the establishment of new voluntary organizations in countries where they do not now exist, which could then participate in useful co-operation with existing organizations in other countries.

Role of Governments

It will be apparent that my Delegation is attracted by International Co-operation Year because it offers an opportunity to men and women the world over to participate personally in direct co-operative activities. Needless to say, we do not think that International Co-operation Year is without significance for governments; but, in countries such as Canada, many functions are carried on by voluntary organizations which in other societies are conducted by governments or quasi-governmental organizations. Obviously the relevance of International Co-operation Year to governments will depend on the nature of their societies.

Canada expects that International Co-operation Year will stimulate a multitude of personal and group activities in the international field — activities which should give increased meaning and significance to each group involved. But International Co-operation Year itself should be greater and more significant than the sum of these discrete activities. The analogy with a symphony has some explanatory value. A symphony is played by an orchestra comprising usually more than 100 instruments. Played separately, the notes scored for each instrument create little effect. Played together, the net effect may be sublime. While each single act of co-operation generated by International Co-operation Year may seem to be of insignificant value, we believe the sum total could be most impressive.

Canada's Preparations

It may be of interest to members if I mention something of the preliminary preparations in Canada in connection with International Co-operation Year. As soon as the report of the Preparatory Committee was published, the UN Association of Canada took the initiative of convening a meeting of national voluntary organizations having a potential interest in the International Co-operation Year. The representatives of these organizations in turn appointed an Interim Steering Committee which is now exploring the implications of International Co-operation Year for voluntary organizations in Canada. It is possible that this Steering Committee will recommend the establishment of a Canadian Committee for International Co-operation Year open to all voluntary organizations in Canada which have an interest in promoting International Co-operation Year. It will be for