

almost every single activity of the United Nations. There is scarcely any subject discussed in which the unresolved differences between the Eastern European States and the western world do not reveal themselves. There is no member of a United Nations body who does not sooner or later stub his toe on the unresisting reality of this solid mass of conflict.

Sometimes the issue is joined on some question that divides the Great Powers specifically. The peace settlements were jealously kept out of the terms of reference of the United Nations when that body was created. The Peace was to be made by the Big Powers alone but they have failed to make peace in either of the important areas where war was waged, and questions relating to the peace settlement cannot help getting on the agenda of United Nations meetings. At the last Assembly, for example, we had to deal with the question of Korea. An arrangement in regard to the unity and independence of Korea was made by the Great Powers during a wartime conference. They have been unable to put their agreement into effect, and Korea remains divided and under occupation. This year a question was put by the United States on the agenda of the General Assembly and a United Nations Commission is in Korea at this moment trying to see if a National Government can be established. It has already been refused admission to the Soviet Zone and I do not see how it can possibly accomplish its mission. The Korean debate at the Assembly in November was long and acrimonious. It could not possibly result in any really constructive conclusion simply because the problem of Korea is part of the great unresolved problem of the peace settlement. Those of us who are engaged in the work of the United Nations must admit quite frankly that until the major political issues left over from the war have been settled, until some kind of equilibrium has been worked out between the two great blocs of power that have emerged in the world there will be serious limitations on the effectiveness of that organization. It may be that the United Nations itself can help in developing the new equilibrium which is so greatly needed. Until there is greater stability, however, we must be satisfied with limited results.

There are other times when the issues are not specifically those which arise between the Great Powers but are part of the general propaganda warfare that is now going on between Eastern European States and the rest of the world. We, ourselves, sometimes get innocently involved in this conflict in a wholly unexpected manner. At the last Assembly, for example, the question of refugees and displaced persons found its way into the discussions. It has recently been possible to absorb into the industrial life of this country a very considerable number of displaced persons who have been brought to Canada under various agreements which guaranteed them immediate employment upon their arrival here and which also made their employment subject to Government supervision in a variety of ways. This has not perhaps been a spectacular contribution to the solution of the refugee problem but it has nevertheless opened new lives to several thousand homeless persons. This effort, which, on the whole we regard as the humanitarian one, has made us the target