

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES:

Since the beginning, Canada has taken a strong interest in the work of the Specialized Agencies as the instruments for achieving the Charter objectives of "higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress." Each of the Specialized Agencies carries out specific economic or social activities according to the functional purpose for which it has been created. Each operates on the basis of a separate constitution and independent budget; and each maintains close co-ordination with the Economic and Social Council. Canada is a member of the ten Specialized Agencies now in operation, and played a prominent part in the International Refugee Organization which has now ceased to function. Canada has ratified the Convention for an Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) which is intended to concern itself with technical matters affecting international shipping and hopes that this body will come into being at an early date.

Some of the Specialized Agencies--notably the International Telecommunications Union (ITU); the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)--are mainly functional in their operations. They facilitate commerce and communications amongst nations of the world by establishing uniform practices and removing technical difficulties. The others--the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund--devote themselves primarily to the task of improving the economic and social conditions of the people of the world. A distinguished Canadian, Dr. Brock Chisholm, was Director-General of WHO from its inception until his retirement in 1953, and a number of other Canadians occupy key posts both at headquarters and in these various agencies.

FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE:

While it has been necessary, in the face of Soviet imperialistic policies, to use all possible means to strengthen collective security--both within and outside a United Nations framework, including the rapid build-up of defensive strength--we have not forsaken the ultimate hope of reducing armaments and of devoting efforts and funds instead to peaceful and constructive endeavours.

Canada serves as a member of the Disarmament Commission of the United Nations and participated also through long, weary months of discussion and negotiation in the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments which preceded it. The story has been one of almost unrelieved deadlock between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers. In the course of the eighth session of the Assembly, considerable interest was shown in the question of disarmament, although the Disarmament Commission itself was inactive during the year. This interest, which had been intensified by reports of progress in the development of the hydrogen bomb, was greatly heightened at the close of the session by the speech of President Eisenhower in which he proposed a basis of co-operation for peaceful pursuits in the atomic field.