

adoption of the Egyptian resolution. I ask each member of this Committee to remember, as we take the vote on this important resolution, that a vote in favour of the Egyptian proposal is a vote to slam the door in the face of certain federal states: for in the absence of a fair and reasonable federal state clause these states are constitutionally debarred from accepting the responsibilities and obligations set forth in the covenants.

Because of the importance of this question the Canadian Delegation requests a roll-call vote in this Committee. It will also ask for a roll-call vote in plenary: for, if, by the adoption of this resolution the door is to be shut in the face of federal states who have this problem, the Delegation of Canada wishes to have the record show whose hands were on the door.

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It might be possible under the reserve clause to enter what might be termed a blanket reservation, an over-all jurisdictional reservation with respect to all clauses of the covenants to the extent that the subject matter of the covenants lies within provincial and outside federal jurisdiction. What this amounts to is giving permission to a federal state to write a federal state clause into the covenants by way of its own unilateral reservation. I doubt very much that this "back-door" solution of the problem would be regarded as a happy or honest one, either by the unitary states or by the federal states themselves.

We are asking for no such back-door solution. We are not asking the Committee to mix oil and water by buying the problems of federal states in the reserve clause, or by offering them a devious and doubtful way out from their problem, - a means of escape which clearly was not originally intended for them.

I would emphasize again, that unlike the reserve clause we are not insisting on the federal state clause for the purpose of enabling us to escape from a single obligation which is constitutionally within the power of the Government of Canada. We are not asking for the federal state clause for the purpose of enabling us to apply the covenants in certain provinces of Canada and not in others, as our Egyptian colleague seems to think. We are not asking for the federal state clause for the purpose of helping out the colonial powers. The colonial powers can take care of themselves.

The Delegation of Canada is asking for the rejection of the Egyptian resolution for only one reason, and that is I believe a worthy one whose motives all members of the Committee, most of all the Egyptian representative will understand. We do not want the door to be closed forever on the possibility of federal states like our own signing, ratifying and implementing the covenants. Yet that, I must state in all seriousness to the Committee, is exactly what will be the consequences of the