

biological and other studies to elucidate the effects of radiation exposure on the health of human populations.

A SUCCESSFUL APPEAL

"The Canadian Delegation is pleased to note the active consideration which has been given to these matters by the Scientific Committee during the current year and to note the assistance which has been offered by member states in response to the invitation contained in the resolution adopted unanimously last year. No less than 13 countries, in addition to the IAEA and the WHO, have now offered, in connection with the programme of radioactive sample analysis, facilities and assistance to enable countries which are willing to participate in the programme but which do not have the necessary technical and financial resources at their disposal to make the full contribution they would desire. Implementation of this international co-operative programme should make it possible to fill in some of the gaps in the information available to the Scientific Committee. As the Committee's report notes, the major flow of material to the Committee has thus far come from relatively few nations and has been more informative with regard to radioactive contamination levels than to biological aspects.

"Members of this Committee may be interested to know that, subsequent to the Canadian Government's offer, in response to resolution 1376, to receive and analyze samples from other countries, arrangements were made between the Governments of Canada, Ghana, Pakistan and Burma for co-operation in this field. Consultations are also taking place with another Asian country with the same end in view. Canadian laboratory facilities are being expanded to take care of this programme, which, when fully implemented, will involve the analysis of some 600 samples from these countries during the initial year. It should be noted that the programme of assistance drawn up by Canada in co-operation with these other countries takes account of the decreasing rate of deposition of fall-out consequent upon the continued suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests, the permanent cessation of which under effective international control is so fervently desired. The Canadian programme, therefore, instead of concentrating on the measurement and analysis of fission-product radioactivity in air and precipitation, emphasizes the public health implications of radiation,--that is, the importance of levels of radiation in diet and in the human body. It is drawn up to meet special national problems and the nutritional habits of the population in the countries concerned.

COMMUNICATION IMPROVED

"The Canadian Delegation is pleased to note that the resolution adopted unanimously last year, besides stimulating more active co-operation of governments, also served to

stimulate consideration of proposals designed to improve the channel of communication between UNSCEAR and individual researchers, associations and institutes. Several worthwhile suggestions have been made in this connection. In accordance with the letter sent out by the Secretary of the Scientific Committee on April 7, 1960, the Canadian authorities have taken special measures to give widest possible distribution to the statement addressed to scientists outlining specific areas in which additional research and data are required.

"The Canadian Government fully endorses the views of the Scientific Committee on the desirability of encouraging research designed to seek solutions to the genetic and biological problems of the effects of ionizing radiation and on the desirability of full co-operation and sharing of knowledge among the international scientific community in order to make the best use of the scientific and material resources available. The continued co-operation of governments and the various inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations which have contributed to the work of the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, as reflected in its report, gives us grounds for expressing our confidence in its ability to discharge the responsibilities laid on it by the General Assembly.

"...With these comments I should like to present for the Committee's consideration the draft resolution which has been circulated in the name of my Delegation... Since the Committee appears to be making satisfactory progress in the task which has been defined for it, and since it will now be embarking on preparation of its next comprehensive report, it should be necessary at this stage only to take note of its present report and proposed programme. This draft resolution is, therefore, designed simply to express appreciation where appreciation is due and to provide the necessary authorization for the Scientific Committee to proceed without interruption with its worthwhile work in the coming year."

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EXPORT PROMOTION CONFERENCE

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has declared that the Export Trade Promotion Conference, held in Ottawa recently, was an unqualified success. "It was the most inspiring and enthusiastic gathering of businessmen and government officials ever held in Canada in an effort to arouse interest in securing a larger proportion of the world market for Canadian products," he said.

Representatives of 1,268 Canadian firms held an aggregate of approximately 11,000 interviews with 110 trade commissioners, summoned home from 63 posts in 49 countries. As had been anticipated, considerable interest was shown in sales possibilities in the United