

but his is not the only one. Yet an attempt is being made to single it out for discussion in plenary, leaving the others to the First Committee. Each one of these other items on disarmament is of equal importance. For example, the report from the Disarmament Commission of the UN contains the resolution adopted unanimously in that Commission less than two months ago, after a first-class discussion which lasted three days.

One paragraph in that resolution passed by the Disarmament Commission in August goes to the very heart of the problem now facing us in disarmament. That paragraph reads as follows: "The Disarmament Commission . . . considers it necessary and recommends that, in view of the urgency of the problem, continued efforts be made for the earliest possible continuation of international negotiations to achieve a constructive solution of the question of general and complete disarmament under effective international control."

### **Indian and Irish Proposals**

That is one key to the problem we are facing today. A third item connected with disarmament has been submitted by India, dealing with the suspension of nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests. Certainly, to all non-nuclear nations, including Canada, this resolution is of great importance. Our stand has been that there should be no more such tests.

The fourth disarmament item comes from Ireland, calling for the prevention of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons. The aspect of the disarmament problem raised by that resolution has great urgency, for, if no agreement is reached on disarmament at an early date, it may be — it just may be — too late to stop the spread of such weapons.

It is our view that all four disarmament items, including the Soviet item, should be dealt with in the First Committee and should be the first business of that Committee. There is no reason why those discussions on disarmament should not start later this week. Such action holds the best hope of any progress being made on the disarmament question during the present session. I am sure that will be the case, because the Chairman of that Committee is our good friend and colleague, Sir Claude Correa.

### **Various Proposals Inseparable**

Whether the four items are brought together under a single heading and discussed as a unit or remain separate items, I presume some latitude would be allowed in the discussion; for example, that a representative discussing the report of the Disarmament Commission would not be ruled out of order if he were to express his government's concern regarding nuclear tests. In any event, these four items are related — closely related. Their separation, at least for purposes of discussion, would be highly artificial — even though each item will probably give rise to a separate resolution — as has happened in other years. What would be the sense of discussing the Soviet item in plenary and the other disarmament items in Committee?