

a deep sentiment of gratitude and admiration, especially for the constant example of good will, courage and high civic sense that they have set in good days as in bad.

#### DECLARATIONS ON MANDATES

In the course of the discussion of the Secretary-General's Report, the representatives of six countries holding mandates, the United Kingdom, South Africa, France, New Zealand, Belgium, and Australia, took the opportunity to make statements on the subject of their mandates. The delegates of two countries not Mandatory Powers, China and India, also made general statements of principle.

The statements made by the Mandatory Powers began with one by the United Kingdom delegate, Lord Cecil, who said that the system of mandates could be regarded as one of the principal landmarks in the evolution of world thought on the subject of non-self-governing countries. Two British mandates, Iraq and Transjordan, had now become independent sovereign states; the future of Palestine could not be decided until the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry had been received and studied; and the Government of the United Kingdom had already announced their intention of placing their remaining mandated territories under the trusteeship system of the United Nations. In the meantime it was the intention of the Government of the United Kingdom to continue to administer these territories and Palestine in accordance with the general principles of the existing mandates.

The delegate of France referred to Lord Cecil's statement and repeated the declaration made in London by the French Delegation to the United Nations to the effect that the French Government intended to continue the execution of the mandates in the spirit laid down in the Charter of San Francisco, and was ready to enter into agreements, as soon as the trusteeship system established by the United Nations Charter came into being, in respect of Togoland and the Cameroons.

The delegate of New Zealand, Mr. Knowles, said that in view of his Government the dissolution of the League of Nations did not diminish New Zealand's obligations to the inhabitants of Western Samoa and did not increase her rights in that territory. A similar declaration was made by the delegate of Belgium with regard to Ruanda-Urundi. He stated that his Government had declared its intention to open negotiations to place this territory under the trusteeship system and, in fact, had already drafted an agreement to this end.