

In his work the High Commissioner co-operates closely with the Inter-governmental Committee on European Migration (ICEM). This organization, of which Canada is a member, makes arrangements for the transportation of European migrants, some of whom are refugees, who could not otherwise be moved. In China, the High Commissioner and ICEM carry on a joint operation on behalf of those European refugees with whom contact can be established; the former is responsible for providing maintenance and emergency aid while the latter arranges, wherever possible, for their movement from China. In 1954 Canada contributed \$50,000 each to ICEM and to the High Commissioner for Refugees for their work in China, and again in 1955 gave a further \$50,000 for ICEM's work in China. The International Labour Organization, UNESCO, and the World Health Organization have also interested themselves in the welfare of refugees as have the Council of Europe and the Organization for European Economic Co-operation. The High Commissioner maintains close liaison with these bodies.

At the ninth session of the General Assembly in 1954, the High Commissioner for Refugees stressed the continuing seriousness of the refugee problem and proposed a four-year (1955-58) programme designed to achieve permanent solutions to the problems of refugees. The General Assembly authorized him to undertake this programme, the cost of which was provisionally estimated at \$16 million, and established a new United Nations Refugee Fund (UNREF) for the purpose. The Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds was asked to solicit \$4,200,000 from governments for the first year of the programme towards which the Canadian Government contributed \$125,000. Approximately three-quarters of the funds are to be used to finance projects leading to the integration of refugees in their present countries of residence, while about one-quarter of the funds will provide emergency aid for refugees. The first priority under the programme is to reduce the number of refugees living in camps in the Middle East.

At the tenth session of the General Assembly the High Commissioner drew attention to the fact that only about 50 per cent of the target amount of \$4,200,000 for 1955 had been received. The receipts were augmented however by \$1,000,000 in private contributions from the Netherlands which made possible the implementation of about 75 per cent of the projects approved for the first year of the programme. Many delegations, including that of Canada, expressed their disappointment at the lack of response from governments generally to the appeal for contributions. The General Assembly passed a resolution, which Canada supported, requesting the High Commissioner for Refugees to continue his work and urging governments to provide him with adequate financial support. A target figure of \$4,400,000 in contributions has been set for 1956 and the Canadian Government announced in November 1955 that, subject to Parliamentary approval, it will contribute a further \$125,000.

During the discussion of the High Commissioner's report the Soviet bloc reiterated their view, expressed at previous sessions, that the High Commissioner had failed in his duty to promote the repatriation of refugees to their countries of origin. In reply, the High Commissioner pointed out that his Office had always allowed the refugees to choose freely between repatriation, resettlement in another country, and integration in the country of asylum. He stated that in recent years only a very limited number of refugees had chosen repatriation.

Through the efforts of the High Commissioner, acting in co-operation with governments and voluntary agencies, projects were approved during 1955 which will assist approximately 6,000 refugees. Under the emergency aid