

threatened to resort to its veto many times. A threat of that kind is usually as effective in tying up the Security Council as an actual veto. Do not put this down as a stumbling-block for the U.N. contrived solely by Russia, for it is by no means certain that the U.S. Senate would agree to allow this nation to deal with the Communists in the Security Council unless the U.S. delegate likewise continued to be armed with the veto.

The veto stops the U.N. Security Council from doing many things most U.N. members would favor. It has thwarted the efforts of the U.N. again and again. But while the Charter remains as it is - and no one thinks it can be changed at this point, for changing the Charter is itself subject to the veto - this is a problem unsolved.

Because Dr. Van Kirk was writing a very compressed pamphlet, despite the candor with which he named some U.N. failures he did not name all of them. Here are a few more which, even in a partial study, seem to us should be added.

Not to make the picture more black than it really is, consider first one or two instances in which the U.N. has achieved a partial success, where the present failure may still be turned into a complete success. Palestine and Kashmir are examples. In both, a cease-fire and a truce line have been established. That was an important achievement, for the wars starting in both places could have developed into major wars which might have involved many nations, including the United States. But in neither Palestine nor Kashmir a firm peace been gained. In both, the danger of a renewal of fighting continues.

In Palestine, this danger is intensified by the 800,000 Arab refugees who exist in misery around the borders of Israel. Nothing has worked yet to solve the problem of those Palestine refugees. They have but one thought - to get back to the homes in Israel from which they fled more than four years ago. In their hatred for the Israelis and their despair they form an active focus of trouble in the Near East.

Success may still crown the efforts of the U.N. to bring peace to Kashmir and Palestine. If it does not, as in the case of disarmament it will not be because the U.N. has not tried by every means that seemed available to gain peace. So far, however, it has gained only a truce; so far, failure must be acknowledged in everything beyond that.

The Korea story may turn out to be the same. But it is too early to tell, for as this is written the U.N. is still in the midst of its maddening negotiations with the Communists, trying to turn another cease-fire into a peace. In trying to solve that problem, account must be taken of Syngman Rhee as well as the Communists.

Tunisia and Morocco are at least partial failures. Its Arab members have tried to induce the United Nations to call on France to grant those two North African protectorates independence. Unquestionably they are more ready for freedom than was Libya, the former Italian colony which the U.N. started off as an independent nation in 1951. And the growing unrest in both protectorates constitutes an undeniable threat to world peace.