

### Universality

Canada supports the objective of universality of membership. The Charter, it is true, speaks of certain conditions for membership, but my government takes the view that all states which apply for membership ought to be given the benefit of the doubt if such exists. Any question about the degree of independence of such states should be resolved on the basis of the opinion and practice of the majority of member states.

But Canada also believes that a member once admitted to membership should remain a member. We hold that it would be a dangerous precedent to recommend expulsion of a member state on the grounds of violation of the principles of the Charter, unless this is the consensus of the whole membership. To purge this organisation of "unpopular" members could lead to the withdrawal of support by others and the paralysis of our activities. That is too high a price for us to pay.

We also hear threats from time to time to suspend the right of Israel to participate in the General Assembly. Canada would oppose such action. To deprive members of their rights in the General Assembly on grounds not justified by the Charter makes a mockery of the Assembly. Our purpose is to debate the issues, not to stifle them.

### Institutional Change

One implication of universality of membership must be a willing acceptance of the obligations of membership, especially by those states which play a major role in the Organisation. A responsible measure of participation in UN activities, especially those voluntary programs which relieve suffering or help to maintain the peace, is a sign of such willingness. As a matter of principle Canada will maintain its full and complete support for all UN organs of which it is a member. We would regret any trend towards the boycotting of UN institutions, or the unilateral reduction of assessed contributions to UN agencies, even though certain of their activities may be regarded by some states as harmful or irregular.