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INDEX TO INSIDE PAGES

Mr. Pearson's Peace Proposals at UN... 1-11-12	Mr. Shinwell Here November 3-6	6
The Netherlands' Thanks	Partially to Restore B.W.I. Market	6
Manufacturing Peak in 1949	Control Credit Buying to Check Price Rise ..	7
End State of War With Germany	North Atlantic Treaty Organization Meetings:	8
Sees Need For Aid to Universities	Exports to U.S. At Peak	9
Labour Income at Record High	Mr. Chevrier to Aviation Industry	9
Wheat Crop 430,000,000 Bushels	Canada Savings Bonds	9
Labour Force Analysis	Canada at the United Nations	10

WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

MR. PEARSON'S PEACE PROPOSALS AT UN: In a statement on October 30 on the Soviet Peace Resolution before the First Committee, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, speaking as Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, suggested certain steps which might be taken by the Communist States. Such steps, he suggested would help to remove western fears over the lack of co-operation which marked Soviet foreign policy, and might begin to establish mutual confidence. These steps would be:

"(1) The Soviet Union should immediately join in the work of the United Nations specialized agencies devoted to such things as health, food and agriculture, instead of boycotting that work as at present. Also the Soviet Union - so rich and powerful - should bear its share of the burden of assistance to under-developed countries and of relief and rehabilitation in ravaged countries like Korea.

"(2) The Soviet Union should cease the policy of isolating its people, its culture, its progress, from any contact with the non-communist world; should give its people an opportunity to learn for themselves that we are not all capitalist exploiters, imperialist warmongers, and gangsters; while we in our turn, should be given the opportunity to convince ourselves that the great, flourishing

energies of the Soviet people are being solely devoted - as we are told - to the work of peaceful construction...."

Referring to the annual recurrence at the Assembly of a general debate on the essentials of peace, and noting headline reproductions of such Soviet phrases as "unbridled slanders," "dirty insinuations," "nonsensical babbling," and "maddened yelps of warmongers," Mr. Pearson offered this further peace proposal of his own: "It is a two-year moratorium on bellicose and violent speeches about peace at the United Nations, and a two-year attempt to do something effective about peace."

The Minister proceeded, in part:

"The Soviet Resolution contains an appeal to the permanent members of the Security Council to work for peace and to conclude a pact. While we must be, of course, in favour of renewed effort to reach agreement by every form of consultation, we should not forget that peace lies not primarily in pacts, but in the hearts of men and the policies of states.

"In this matter of consultation as in other matters, we should come down out of the clouds and face certain hard facts. What kind of consultations are envisaged? Experience has shown that some forms may accomplish nothing. Indeed, they may do more harm than good by raising hopes that are later dashed and by creating despair out of failure of great expectations.