

been created—to promote co-operation between the peoples and nations of the world so that they might be able to live together as good neighbours, free from fear and want and with liberty of thought and worship.

The second part of the First Session of the Assembly accomplished more than could reasonably have been expected when it opened. In spite of difficulties it was able to establish the Trusteeship Council, the only one of the principal organs of the U.N. which had not been brought into operation at the London Assembly. It approved, after a long debate, the constitution of the International Relief Organization. It worked out a compromise on the vexed question of international relief needs after the termination of UNRRA. It created a new subsidiary organ, the International Children's Emergency Fund which in the long run may do much to restore the devastated countries by improving their primary asset, the younger generation.

It increased notably what may be called the "quasi-legislative" functions of the Assembly. Thus it "affirmed" the "principles of international law" recognized by the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal for the trial of the major war criminals of the European Axis; it "declared" that genocide is a crime under international law; and it "adopted" regulations for carrying out Article 102 of the Charter on the registration and publication of international agreements. The Charter does not confer upon the Assembly any legislative power, in the strict sense, in the general field of international law, and no specific authority can be found in the Charter for resolutions of this character. Nevertheless, it was generally agreed that the Assembly possessed inherent power to adopt resolutions expressing its views on contemporary international law, and giving effect to Article 102 of the Charter. It is doubtful whether such resolutions have, in international law, an absolute juridical force. There can be no doubt, however, that important precedents were established and that these resolutions, representing the collective opinions of fifty-five Members of the U.N., will carry great weight in practice.

The resolutions passed during the second part of the First Session, notably those on non-self-governing territories and on India's complaint against South Africa, demonstrate that there is little or no danger that the Assembly will restrictively interpret its own powers