same period of pre-natal life is still extremely tenuous and does not permit exclusion of the possibility that increased incidence of the same effects may be a result of exposure in this lower range.

It is said that we must fight pollution today at all levels—pollution of our soil, our air and our water. And so we do, Mr. Speaker. But we also have a threat posed by nuclear pollution, and all of mankind is affected by that threat, regardless of ideology.

According to page 9 of the report, exposure to radiation may result in an increase in the number of chromosomal aberrations. These aberrations are clearly of genetic importance and may in fact comprise the major component of the genetic damage resulting from radiation exposure. Scientists of the world are working feverishly to check the findings gathered thus far, which indicate that the very chromosomes which decide the future genetics of mankind and the ability of man to survive are affected by nuclear testing.

I do not claim, nor does anybody else on the government side claim, that this was a Liberal inspiration because I am sure all Canadians give their support, but I am proud to say that at the United Nations Canada has acquired the reputation of being the nation that presents the resolution dealing with the continuation of scientific testing of nuclear levels throughout the world. This year Canada again moved a similar resolution, supported by Czechoslovakia. Although there may be some disheartening moments at the international level, when a Canadian resolution is supported by Czechoslovakia, the United States, the U.S.S.R., South Africa, Israel, Great Britain, France and all the rest of the nations, it is an indication that Canada is taking an initiative which mankind believes to be useful. We believe that in its 14 years of existence this committee of world scientists has conscientiously discharged its responsibilities. During this same period the world has experienced a rapid and alarming rise in radiation levels, happily followed by a substantial reduction as a result of the partial test ban treaty of 1963.

However, nuclear tests, be they atmospheric or underground are, I repeat, far from being the only source of radiation to which the world population is exposed. As the report to which I referred indicates, the peaceful application of nuclear energy, valuable though it is, carries with it a constant hazard. As these uses grow and spread, the importance of continued monitoring and the interpretation of contamination data will assume even more significant dimensions. In his speech to world scientists on May 7, 1969 the Secretary General referred to the assistance that the nations of the world derive from these scientific reports. He expressed the concern of all mankind when he stressed the importance of measures to deal with environmental radiation and its dangers.

There is one difficulty with this report that has been issued on the dangers inherent in military and even peaceful applications of atomic energy. That difficulty is that the report is a highly scientific document which it is difficult for people generally to understand. If the masses of the world were to understand what the scientists of the world were trying to tell them about the dangers of radiation, then they would be just as alarmed about nuclear pollution as they have now become alarmed about pollution of their water, air and the rest of the environment in this biosphere.

Next year the scientific committee will issue a popular pamphlet. The final chapter of this scientific report will be written in layman's language. I hope that a good journalist with a scientific background will write that chapter. A couple of members of this House have experience in that field. The report should be made available to every Canadian, hopefully to every resident of the world. In this way will they understand the dangers which are an inherent part of the scientific advances that have been made.

The report that the scientific committee has just completed represents a continuation of its previous activities. As I have already said, the Canadian resolution had the unanimous support of all nations at the United Nations. Another scientific report will be published next year and the scientific committee will be carrying on its work.

The importance and rapid development of three subjects critically reviewed by the committee, namely radiation carcinogenesis in man, the genetic risks of ionizing radiation and radiation-induced chromosome anomalies in man, will mean that they must be reviewed even more intensively during the coming 12 months and another report issued.

• (3:00 p.m.)

We said at the United Nations that we are confident that in the discharge of the full range of its responsibilities with respect to the levels of radiation to which the world population is or may become exposed, involving careful assessments of a wide range of