

interesting experiments are underway to assist the drying of soybean milk in the hope that this may help to meet the deficiency.

Economic Significance

Programmes such as those outlined could no doubt be justified on humanitarian grounds alone but they are not without economic significance as well. Children who grow up well nourished and without disease will be much more productive citizens than those unable to support themselves because they are crippled by yaws or invalided by tuberculosis. The land which breeds the malaria mosquito is usually highly productive agriculturally. The destruction of the mosquito not only brings improved health but a substantial increase in the local food supply.

The extent to which UNICEF can contribute to the health and welfare of the world's children, beyond the small fraction who have so far benefited, depends in part on its resources. The fact that UNICEF depends entirely on voluntary contributions from government and private sources has influenced its planning. Limited funds have led it to favour programmes where the largest benefits could be secured from small per capita costs. Administrative costs have been kept to the lowest level compatible with the efficiency of a world-wide operation.

The board does not vote funds on an annual basis. The full amount required for the UNICEF share of a programme is allocated when the project is approved. So, regardless of the time required for completion or the fluctuations of total income, the Fund is always able to complete its undertakings.

Contributions Increasing

Both the number and amount of government contributions have increased each year since 1950. In 1950 thirty governments contributed approximately \$8 million. In 1953 fifty governments contributed over \$14 million. Though encouraging, this still falls short of the Fund's target of \$20 million. The Canadian Government has contributed \$8,375,000 (Can.) to UNICEF since its establishment out of total governmental contributions amounting to approximately \$136,645,000 (US). UNICEF has also proved popular among the Canadian public which has contributed more than \$1,500,000 to the Fund's operations.

UNICEF received encouraging and heartwarming tributes in all speeches made during the General Assembly debate. It has been given a mandate to continue its work. Provided it receives sufficient financial support it can do so. The situation was well summed up by the Assembly president, Mrs. Pandit, in announcing the unanimous vote on the Fund. "Its value lies not only in the lives saved, but in the entire communities which it strengthens and in the faith in the United Nations which it establishes and renews wherever it operates. The support from as many governments as possible is vital if the Fund is to sustain the high hopes which this Assembly has experienced in it."