

flexible arbitration machinery for dealing with international disputes than that provided by the International Court of Justice.

Experience has shown that this informal type of arbitration machinery is under certain conditions a preferred medium for handling international disputes.

Also, of course, the Arbitration Court plays a part in the appointment of judges to the International Court.

Our active participation in the activities of the Permanent Court gives further evidence of Canada's desire to strengthen the rule of law in international affairs and to re-affirm the importance of the role of arbitration.

The jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice has all the characteristics of a formal court of last resort, with its jurisdiction being limited to the strict terms of reference provided for under the terms of the Statute of the Court, having particular regard to Article 36 of the Statute. By contrast, the Permanent Court of Arbitration provides a flexible, informal arbitration type of machinery for dealing with disputes.

It was thought at the end of the War that the International Court of Justice would, for all practical purposes, replace the Permanent Court of Arbitration. However, the attitude of the Soviet-Bloc countries to the International Court has been one of uniform hostility, while the Asian countries have shown reluctance to use the International Court, which, it appears, they regard as a body dominated by Western legal systems and traditions. It is therefore significant that the U.S.S.R. and some Asian countries have responded favourably to the recent move to support actively the old Court; it would tend to confirm indications, particularly with respect to the U.S.S.R., that those countries may in certain circumstances prefer recourse to arbitration rather than accept to submit to the jurisdiction of the International Court.

It is also believed that the Permanent Court provides a useful alternative to the International Court when a discreet approach is indicated and the publicity attending the International Court is not desirable . . . .

I will now go back to the report on radiation. It is probably all right but I would like to read it.

At the last Assembly, the Canadian Delegation took a vigorous lead in seeking to further the work of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the effects of atomic radiation in regard to the urgent need to fill the gaps that remain in man's knowledge of the nature, levels and effects of radiation. Of particular concern was the effect on the health of human population. I had drawn the attention of the House on July 9 to the desirability of improving and enlarging the data available to the Committee. The same view was expressed in the General Assembly, when I said: "There is widespread concern that we should be able to assess more accurately than is now possible the nature and extent of the hazards resulting from the addition of man-made radiation to that which already occurs in nature".

From the outset the Canadian initiative enlisted a wide measure of support from virtually all the main geographical areas and political groupings repre-