

### *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides care, either under its mandate or through its good offices, for refugees made homeless as a result of wars and other conflicts. While the task of helping European refugees appeared to be nearing completion, throughout 1965 the Office took on added responsibilities in bringing assistance to new groups of refugees, particularly in Africa, where the total number within its purview is over 400,000.

The budget for the 1965 programme was \$3.5 million, of which over one-half was directed to the expanding refugee problems in Africa. The Executive Committee, which Canada chaired in 1965, approved a budget of \$3.9 million for UNHCR programmes in 1966. These programmes are financed by voluntary contributions from government and private sources. In 1965, the Canadian Government decided to increase its annual contribution by \$60,000 to \$350,000 (Canadian).

At the twentieth session of the General Assembly, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan of Iran was elected High Commissioner to succeed Mr. Felix Schnyder of Switzerland, who was retiring after four years of distinguished service.

### *United Nations Relief and Works Agency*

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) was established by the General Assembly in 1949 to assist Palestine Arabs who became refugees as a result of hostilities in Palestine during 1948. It is a special non-political agency which, in co-operation with the "host governments" (Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the United Arab Republic), provides basic rations, shelter, health and welfare services as well as education and training for many of the refugees. There were 1,280,823 refugees registered with the Agency in June 1965.

During 1964-65, the Agency continued to provide relief and health services to the refugees on approximately the same scale as in the previous year, although it was forced to restrict its educational and training services because of lack of funds to offset rising costs. The Commissioner General said in his annual report that budgetary problems were jeopardizing the Agency's future.

At the twentieth session, the General Assembly voted to extend UNRWA's mandate until June 30, 1969. During the debate on UNRWA in