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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

MR. PEARSON'S PLEA FOR ATOM CONTROL: The following is the partial text of the statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, Chairman, Canadian Delegation, before the ad hoc Political Committee of the United Nations, on November 8, 1949:

"...As you know, proposals which we think adequate for this good purpose have been worked out, and were approved last year by a large majority of the General Assembly, but in this matter, approval by a majority of States, however impressive, is not enough. If humanity is to be made secure from the dangers of atomic destruction, all nations must agree on measures which we know can be, and will be, implemented by all. To put the matter another way, if the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. do not agree on a plan for ensuring that there will not be an atomic arms race, there will be no such plan and there will be such a race, with no winner!

"The position of my Government on the United Nations plan for the control of atomic energy and the prohibition and elimination of atomic weapons is well known. In common with most of the members of the United Nations, we are prepared to accept that plan. We are convinced that it is a good plan. We certainly do not, however, claim omniscience on this subject, nor is our thinking concerning it rigid and inflexible. Indeed the problem of atomic energy is such that it seems to me that all of

us should seek its solution with humility as well as sincerity. If any new proposals are made or new approaches suggested that give promise of an effective and agreed solution for this problem, then my Government will welcome them and examine them with all the care which they deserve.

"At the moment, however, as the President of the Assembly has stated, 'the effort to solve this problem is stalled at dead centre'. A political deadlock has developed between the U.S.S.R. and its associates on the one hand, and the majority of us on the other. Nor has that deadlock anything to do with the fact that one side once had an atomic monopoly and no longer has it.

"It has been obvious for many years that no single nation could long have a monopoly in atomic weapons because no single nation has, or can have, a monopoly in brains, or wisdom or energy. This point was made clear in the 1945 Three-Power statement to which I have referred, and the United Nations policy on atomic energy has been developed on this assumption. The recent atomic explosion in the Soviet Union, however, points up dramatically the validity of the thesis that security can be found only in effective international control. Nations on both sides of the chasm which at present so tragically divides the world now have the secret of the power which can smash that world. In an atmosphere of tension and