

On December 9 the Prime Minister of Canada welcomed the President's "imaginative and constructive approach to what is perhaps the greatest problem of the day" and assured the Members of the House of Commons that the President's statement would receive "most careful and sympathetic consideration by the Canadian Government".

While expressing its readiness to take part in private discussions on the proposals, the Soviet Union insisted that consideration be simultaneously given to the suggestion that states party to the agreement implementing the plan should solemnly undertake not to use nuclear weapons in any circumstances. The Western powers cannot agree to an unconditional prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons bearing in mind the numerical superiority of the armaments and armed forces of the Soviet Union and its satellites, including Communist China. The reply of the Soviet Union therefore indicated a negative approach and a refusal to consider President Eisenhower's proposals as a possible means of bridging the gap between the East and the West on the question of international control of atomic energy. The subsequent confidential discussions between the United States and the U.S.S.R. did not produce agreement and the United States Government is said now to be considering other means of proceeding with the plan.

### Chinese Representation

The issue of Chinese representation has been raised repeatedly at meetings of the United Nations organs and subsidiary bodies, most often by the Soviet Representatives, although India has also been a principal advocate of the acceptance of the Chinese Communists.<sup>1</sup> Some form of resolution has, however, always been adopted postponing consideration of the question. At the eighth session the issue was raised on the opening day by the Soviet Representative but after a long procedural debate the Assembly adopted a United States motion to postpone consideration of the question for the duration of its session in the calendar year 1953. In the absence of a decision on the Chinese representation question in the principal organs of the United Nations, no representatives of Communist China have been seated in any of the subsidiary bodies.

Leading administration spokesmen in the United States have consistently opposed the seating of Communist China in the United Nations, and there has been steady public pressure against any such move. Following on the talks held in June with Sir Winston Churchill and Mr. Eden, Senator William F. Knowland, the majority leader in the Senate, pressed for the issuing of an ultimatum that the seating of the Chinese Communist Government in the United Nations would lead to the withdrawal of the United States. But President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State, while remaining firm against seating the Chinese Communists now, declined to take the stand suggested by Senator Knowland, and the resolution eventually

<sup>1</sup>See *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, p. 8.