

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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No. 55/34 THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY

Statement by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the tenth session of the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Paul Martin, delivered in the First Committee on October 10, 1955.

I have listened with great interest to the statement just made by the distinguished spokesman for the Soviet Union.

I join him in the tribute he paid to the initiative of the Government of the United States in the matter involving the International Scientific Conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The Soviet Representative has referred to the work of the Disarmament Sub-Committee and to the Soviet proposal of May 10: I doubt whether this is the occasion to discuss disarmament but I would wish to draw attention to the fact that other proposals have been submitted and that any agreement to be reached - in a field which is so directly related to the peaceful prospects of atomic development - will also have to take into account these other proposals. It is to be hoped that the Soviet Union will appreciate the importance we attach to the matter of Control: for us a foundation stone in a scheme of general disarmament.

It is now nearly two years since President Eisenhower, speaking to the General Assembly, urged the adoption of measures to speed the application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes throughout the world and undertook to make fissile material available to all nations for these ends. Last year, the Ninth General Assembly responded to this generous and imaginative proposal by unanimously adopting a resolution which expressed the hope that an International Agency for Atomic Energy would be established without delay and called for a Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which was held at Geneva last August. It is appropriate, at this General Assembly, that we should review the progress that has been made in establishing the International Agency and, as provided in the Resolution, that we should have a report on the achievements of the Geneva Atomic Conference. Speaking on behalf of Canada, I intend to make a few remarks on these two aspects of this subject and in addition I should like to describe the progress that Canada herself has made in promoting the peaceful application of atomic energy.

First, a few words on the Geneva Conference. The Canadian Government was one of the co-sponsors of last year's resolution and it is, therefore, a great satisfaction to us to see that the current accounts of the