

caped. The discussions of the Commission brought out the need for the preparation of a programme for the welfare of the deaf and deaf-mutes. The Commission also pointed out the need for a generally accepted definition of blindness and for accurate statistics on blindness. There followed a general review of family and child welfare activities.

The Commission expressed satisfaction at the work which the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)² had been doing and urged that UNICEF be given adequate financial support.

A report on the value of in-service training for social welfare personnel as compared with formal training was discussed. The report covered information received from 49 countries and territories. The desirability of simplifying administrative immigration procedures in the interest of the welfare of migrants was discussed and recommendations were made to governments. A good deal of attention was given to housing and town and country planning. Emphasis was laid on the problem of financing housing development.

One of the major documents before the Commission was a comprehensive report on the world social situation.³ The report, the first project of the kind ever undertaken, brought into focus the total social situation in the world and emphasized the gross inequalities that exist. As there was insufficient time to study this report at the eighth session, the Commission asked the Council for permission to hold a meeting in 1953 to review this matter thoroughly.

Commission on Human Rights

The Commission on Human Rights held its seventh session in Geneva from April 16 to May 19, 1951, and its eighth session in New York from April 21 to June 13, 1952. Canada is not a member of this Commission.

At its seventh session the Commission was faced with instructions from the General Assembly (Resolution 421B(VI)) to:

- (a) complete the draft Covenant on Human Rights before the sixth session of the Assembly,
- (b) study a federal state clause and make recommendations thereon,
- (c) include economic, social and cultural rights in the draft Covenant, together with civil and political rights,
- (d) consider, in connection with measures for implementation of the Covenant, the possibility of petitions from individuals or organizations,
- (e) study means of ensuring the self-determination of peoples and report to the General Assembly at its sixth session.

The Commission was unable to complete all these tasks. It drafted articles on economic, social and cultural rights and on proposed measures of implementation. It was unable to complete its work on revision of the first 18 articles dealing with civil rights, its work on petitions, the federal state clause or self-determination.

²See pp. 66-68.

³See pp. 68-69.