

composition of the Delegation itself--made up as it was of representatives from both Houses of Parliament and from both sides of each House--was such as to ensure the widest possible measure of support from the Parliament and the people of Canada. Parliament, after a full debate, had approved by an overwhelming majority a resolution which stressed the vital importance to our future well-being of the establishment of an effective international organization in which Canada would play its full part.

This wide-spread support grew from principles which had come to determine Canada's foreign policy--the need to maintain national unity, to resist threats to political liberty, to support the rule of law in national and international affairs, to maintain moral values, and finally, to accept responsibility in keeping with our role in world affairs. Underlying the Canadian approach to the San Francisco Conference were two basic convictions--that aggression could be prevented or defeated only through the organization of an effective system of collective security; and that peace could be maintained only on a basis of economic and social progress.

Two world wars had confirmed our belief in the validity of these principles. The nations which, between the wars, had pinned their hopes on the League of Nations had done so without being willing to use collective force to deter aggression. This led to the Second World War from which we learned that peace was the responsibility of all and that strength was needed to deter and, if need be, to resist aggression. Canada's growing strength, which had been shown during the war in the effort of the fighting services and in our increased productive capacity, was also reflected in the development and strengthening of the external affairs service, both at home and abroad. Thus, at the end of hostilities, Canada stood prepared to participate in the challenging task of international co-operation.

When the framers of the Charter began their work, they were able to benefit from the tremendous amount of preparatory work that had already been undertaken. Its beginnings had been forecast in the Atlantic Charter and endorsed by the United Nations Declaration of 1942. Discussions of increasing breadth and purpose had been carried on at the Moscow Conference in 1943; at the Prime Ministers' meeting in London in 1944; in extensive exchanges of views between the Great Powers; and finally, in the Dumbarton Oaks conversations which took place in Washington from August 21 to October 7, 1944. While Canada was not represented at Dumbarton Oaks, its views were made known through the United Kingdom Delegation. The Dumbarton Oaks Proposals formed the general basis for the San Francisco Conference, although several questions--notably voting procedure in the Security Council--were later agreed upon at Yalta.

The Charter concerns itself with five distinct spheres of responsibility: settlement of disputes; resistance to aggression; international economic and social co-operation; international trusteeship responsibilities; and maintenance of justice and international law. To carry out these responsibilities, six principal organs were established: the General Assembly; the Security Council; the Economic and Social Council; the Trusteeship Council; the International Court of Justice; and the Secretariat.