

With this consideration in mind Canada also voted in the General Assembly for an Irish proposal aimed at limiting the spread of nuclear weapons at the independent disposal of national governments. Consistent with the Canadian view that temporary measures are no substitute for disarmament -- and this Irish resolution, of course, was a temporary measure -- under effective international control, the Canadian vote on this resolution was explained as follows, and I am now quoting from the statement made by my Parliamentary Secretary the Hon. Member for Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt):

"Here again, however, I must emphasize the importance of the time factor. We have stressed over and over again the necessity of resuming negotiations on disarmament and we think that the threat of the further spread of nuclear weapons is one of the most important reasons for getting on with these negotiations. If no steps are taken toward disarmament -- if, indeed, we do not have even a beginning to serious negotiations on this subject -- no country will be content to sit by in the hope that goodwill alone will prevent the widespread dissemination of these weapons. For our part I must say quite clearly that Canada would not be able to accept this state of affairs for very long. We have worked and we will continue to work with every resource at our command to achieve an agreement on disarmament which would include provisions to deal with the frightening problem of nuclear weapons. If, however, there is no significant progress in this field in the immediate future, we will consider our position on the temporary measures which are proposed in this resolution."

Another field to which Canadian efforts have been directed in the United Nations itself. Here, Mr. Speaker, may I say a word of praise for my Parliamentary Secretary, for the Members of Parliament, Senator Blois and other Canadians who have represented Canada during this last session. At the United Nations the work is hard. I would never admit that fact to the delegation when I am in New York but, now that they are all safely home, I must admit that they work very much harder there than we do here in Ottawa. The hours are long. Constantly coming up for consideration are resolutions and amendments. There are other delegations to canvass and there are receptions to attend, and they are also quite a hazard. This is a full-time job for anybody who represents Canada at the United Nations, not only as a delegate but also as an observer. There our people have worked as a team. There are no differences between the parties. We are all there as a Canadian team. This is the main reason why the Canadian delegation has been so successful during this last session.