

## CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Interim Committee of the General Assembly and the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea have attached to United Nations bodies observing proper constitutional procedures has made a valuable contribution to the work of the United Nations.

The reports in the press that Doctor Patterson had walked out of the Commission were incorrect and misleading, both to the Korean people and to persons abroad. When the Commission decided to observe elections in that part of Korea accessible to it, Doctor Patterson cabled us for further instructions. Pending the receipt of these instructions Doctor Patterson, as was only right and proper, informed his colleagues on the Commission that he would not be able to take an active part in the work of the Commission until he had received further instructions from Ottawa. He has continued to attend the meetings of the Commission, nevertheless.

Doctor Patterson has presented the views of the Government on the Commission faithfully and well under difficult circumstances. His experience and knowledge of the Far East have enabled him to give us sound and helpful reports on the background of developments in Korea.

The Government has decided that it will not be necessary to recall Doctor Patterson for consultation, because he has been able to send us a very full account of what happened. Instructions have been sent to Doctor Patterson authorizing him to continue to serve with the Commission, because the Commission conceives its duties to be to observe, consult and advise Koreans and the United States military government authorities regarding the conduct of these elections; but the responsibility for running the elections rests with the United States military government authorities and any action towards the establishment of a Government in Korea following the elections will not be on the strength of the resolution of the General Assembly but on the legal position of the occupying military authorities. Further, the Chairman of the Korean Commission has drawn attention to the fact that the Commission has the authority to withdraw at any time if it is not satisfied that it can perform a useful function in remaining in Korea to observe the manner in which the elections are to be held."

**WHEAT BOARD REPORT:** Canadian Wheat Board has built up a surplus of \$158,467,000--equal to about 27½ cents a bushel--on the wheat it has so far handled under its five-year pool. The Board's report, tabled in Parliament Tuesday, showed.

The surplus was built up on the 576,398,606 bushels of wheat the Board had bought under the scheme by July 31, 1947, for which it paid producers \$756,763,785. Its sales and stocks on hand then amounted to \$929,244,667, against

which had to be charged its operating and administration costs, and the cost of the 10-cents-a-bushel additional payment made on the 1944 crop.

The Board sold 530,435,715 bushels from the pool by last July.

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:** His Excellency the Governor General on Tuesday afternoon, approved the appointment of Dr. J.M. Uhrich as Lieutenant Governor of the province of Saskatchewan to fill the vacancy created in that office by the sudden death, Tuesday morning, of the late Honourable R.J.M. Parker.

"There is, unfortunately, no provision for an Administrator being appointed where the office of Lieutenant Governor becomes vacant as is the case where leave of absence is granted to a Lieutenant Governor," said the official announcement. "Dr. Uhrich would have preferred to have his acceptance of office deferred for some days out of respect for the memory of the late Lieutenant Governor. On representations, however, from the Government of Saskatchewan that the business of the province demanded the immediate appointment of a successor to the late Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Uhrich was strongly urged by the Federal Government to assume office forthwith. In the circumstances, Dr. Uhrich has agreed to assume the duties of Lieutenant Governor at once, and necessary steps are being taken to see that he is sworn to office at the earliest moment possible."

**COMMISSION "MAGNIFICENT":** Canada's new aircraft carrier, H.M.C.S. "Magnificent" will be officially commissioned at Belfast, Ireland on April 7th, at 3 p.m. Greenwich time, it was announced Wednesday by Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence. The last R.C.N. personnel left H.M.C.S. "Warrior", the original Canadian carrier, on March 22nd, on which day the ship was returned to the Royal Navy. By April 6th, "Magnificent's" crew will be complete except for flying personnel, and the following day after the official commissioning ceremony, Commodore H.G. DeWolf, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C., R.C.N., will hoist his broad pennant as Senior Canadian Naval Officer Afloat at the new warship's yardarm.

On April 15th, off the Irish coast, "Magnificent" will begin her acceptance trials. These being completed, the Admiralty overseers and representatives of Harland and Wolff, the builders, will go ashore at Portsmouth at the end of the month, the receipt for the ship signed. "Magnificent" will then return to Belfast, to embark the personnel of the 19th Carrier Air Group on May 12th. The aircraft will be embarked about May 15th, the ship then sailing for Halifax on the 25th, the arrival date there being June 1st.

cruiting of local militia until after the mandate was terminated, since these activities would increase the problem of maintaining public order. For the same reason it could not allow the Commission to go to Palestine until May 1st. Preparations essential to the fulfilment of the plan have therefore been impossible to carry out and it is now clear that the co-operation of the United Kingdom in the execution of the plan cannot be expected beyond accepting the recommendation that the mandate be laid down, and permitting an advance party of the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission to undertake preparatory work in Jerusalem.

"A third assumption made, in adopting the plan of partition, was that a resolution of the General Assembly on this subject would be accepted even by the Members of the United Nations which voted against it in Plenary Session. Thus, in spite of the opposition of the Arab States, the Assembly acted in the belief that a recommendation supported by at least two-thirds of the Members of the United Nations present and voting would have "a position close to law" and would not be opposed by any Member States. An active minority of the Members of the United Nations has refused to accept the recommendation of the Assembly. This minority includes all states adjacent to Palestine. The nations in question are now said to be assisting the organization of irregular forces to resist partition, and they have indicated that they are prepared even to use their own armed forces if outside forces come to the aid of the Jews.

## WIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

"It was also assumed, when the plan of partition was adopted by the General Assembly, that it would be possible to transfer authority for the Government of Palestine rapidly and progressively from the Mandatory Power to the Provisional Councils of Government of the new states. For this reason, it was not expected that the Palestine Commission would be required to do more than superintend the acceptance by the Provisional Councils of Government of the administrative and protective responsibility which the Mandatory Power was surrendering. In effect, it was expected that the role of the United Nations would be no greater than to assist in the transfer of authority from the Mandatory Power to independent Arab and Jewish States. In practice however, it has not proved possible to put this procedure into effect. The progressive transfer of authority to the Councils of Government was not possible because the Mandatory Power did not consider that the situation in Palestine was such that the Palestine Commission could be permitted to enter

Palestine until a fortnight before the termination of the mandate, and it was itself unwilling to take steps towards the establishment of local authorities to take over its administrative responsibilities. The Palestine Commission, therefore, if it were to function at all, would now have to undertake much wider responsibilities for administration following the termination of the mandate than was ever intended.

"Finally, it was assumed in November that the Security Council would be in a position to take the initiative in maintaining peace in Palestine if difficulties arose there during the period of transition following the surrender of the mandate. It was recognized, by some states at least, that disorder might break out in Palestine, and it was assumed that agreement could be reached in the Security Council as to the measures necessary to be taken in that event. The report which we have recently received of the discussions amongst the Permanent Members of the Security Council indicates quite clearly, however, that agreement cannot be reached under present arrangements to take effective military action to keep order in Palestine.

"What then are we to do? It seems then that if nothing is done either by the organized community of nations or by the states directly concerned, Palestine will become a scene of ever increasing violence and disorder. Both Jews and Arabs are prepared to fight for control of the country, and a bitter civil war seems likely to break out when the United Kingdom surrenders the mandate unless some alternative authority is established. The peace not only of Palestine but of the whole Middle East would be endangered. The interests of all members of the United Nations, and particularly of the peoples who reside in this area, would be seriously endangered by such a calamity.

## TRIBUTE TO COMMISSION

"A brief but vigorous effort has been made to give effect to the plan of partition. It is now proposed that this effort should be suspended, at least temporarily. In considering this proposal, we should not overlook the conscientious and intelligent manner in which the Palestine Commission has endeavoured to carry out the task given it by the General Assembly and I should like to take this opportunity to bear tribute to the Commission and their advisers. The experience of the Commission has demonstrated, I think, that major tasks in the United Nations involving heavy responsibility should not be entrusted to commissions consisting entirely of small powers, especially if the larger powers are not in agreement that these tasks should be carried out. It is to be hoped, therefore, that if new plans for Palestine are to be