

*Supply—External Affairs*

leave it" basis. The western powers are willing to take into account any further suggestions the Soviet union may have, provided they reflect a genuine willingness to arrive at a realistic and properly safeguarded disarmament program.

At the session of the general assembly which opens on September 19, Canada will work for the endorsement of this new western plan by the widest possible number of states and we will do our best to ensure that any negotiating body which may be agreed upon will have close relationship with the United Nations. We believe that the most important objective in the field of disarmament is to get negotiations started again just as quickly as possible.

Then, I should like to say a few words about the unaligned nations conference which met over the week end in Belgrade. There you had 25 neutral nations, some of whom were not very friendly towards the west if one can judge by their actions in recent years. The representatives of these nations came from various continents to try to work out some plan to help reduce tension in the world. I grant that a good deal of time was spent in attacking the question of colonialism and issues which affected particular nations. I believe that the press reports of the meetings of these unaligned countries have not done justice to the significance of their reaction to the questions of Berlin and the resumption of nuclear testing. The dispatch which came out during that conference after the Soviet announcement that nuclear tests would be resumed is contained in one of our newspapers under this heading: "Neutrals Rap A Testing; Urge Berlin Talks."

It is very important that that should have been the reaction in Belgrade. I think, for example, that the statements made by Prime Minister Nehru have been and will be very helpful in bringing about some solution of these terrible problems. I learned the hard way at the United Nations, when dealing with our resolution on disarmament last year, that there are a good many countries which will not stand up and be counted for fear of antagonizing the United States. There are a great many others who will not stand up and be counted for fear of antagonizing the Soviet union. As I say, these neutral countries do not like to take a stand if it can possibly be avoided, yet we have witnessed the sharp reaction of these 25 neutral nations to the resumption of testing by the Soviet union and also to the question of Berlin.

Another important factor in the present situation is the attitude of the new nations. We are living in an era in which there has been a greater expansion of freedom, a greater

launching of new nations, than at any other time in history. From Asia and in Africa the young leaders of these new nations are coming over to New York, to the United Nations, and are taking their part in the deliberations. They are vitally interested in building up their own countries. They have no use whatever for the cold war because they are so busy and have so many problems of their own. They do not want to be bothered with the cold war. They know that if the cold war ever gets hot they will get little economic assistance from either the western world or the communist world. These new nations have an important part to play in the world today. I believe that their opinion as expressed in the United Nations in the next few weeks may have a good deal to do in bringing about a reduction of tension and in putting pressure behind the great powers for a settlement of these problems.

The new nations are all extremely sensitive on the question of colonialism. They have an emotional reaction when that question is under debate and this reaction is understandable. We would have had the same reaction perhaps a hundred years ago. The Soviet never loses an opportunity to try to play upon and to take advantage of that reaction. Last year they introduced a resolution attacking the so-called colonial powers, demanding that all colonies be freed before the end of 1961, and insisting on target dates being set for each country. I do not doubt that they will be back at that same performance in the next session of the general assembly.

However, this is one field in which the commonwealth does not need to take any advice or any criticism from the Soviet union. Last year our own Prime Minister spiked that attack in the United Nations by his great speech in the opening days of the session when he pointed out the situation in such countries as Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. I may say that one is amazed at the nerve of the Soviet representatives in coming to New York and talking about colonialism and the sins of the colonial powers. I marvel that they have the gall to take that position. However, certainly in this particular field the commonwealth in our own time in recent years—and I am thinking of 1961 and 1962—has been and is showing perhaps the greatest statesmanship that has ever been shown by a great power in this world. Tanganyika is being launched on December 9, and the West Indies Federation next year. Shortly after that probably Uganda and Kenya will be launched. These latter two may come in with Tanganyika to form a federation in eastern Africa. Other colonies under the British flag are to get independent government in the same way at the earliest possible date and just as quickly as trained leaders can be provided for those