

The need for real progress towards disarmament has never been more graphically illustrated than by the explosion by the Soviet Union of a monster bomb this year. Mankind will never live easily or free from fear so long as this menace exists - and the overwhelming majority of nations clearly and courageously expressed their condemnation of the Soviet Union's disregard for human welfare in the vote of the United Nations calling on the Soviet Union to refrain from exploding the super bomb. That appeal went unheeded but it was a demonstration of the effectiveness of the United Nations as a forum for the mobilization of world opinion.

Aid for Developing Nations

In recalling the accomplishments of the past year, we may also take encouragement from the continuance and expansion of efforts to assist the growth of the developing countries. While an immense amount remains to be done, it bodes well for the future that the more industrialized countries continue to recognize an obligation to assist the less developed nations to improve their standards of living. Canada for her part is putting more than \$60 million into programmes in Africa and Asia - and has joined the Economic Commission for Latin America - as an earnest of her deep interest in the welfare of the countries of those regions.

War on Want

There is one project in this field in which Canada takes particular pride. I refer to the World Food Programme which was recently endorsed by an overwhelming majority at the United Nations. While the exact nature of this programme remains to be settled by the 20-nation committee recently set up by the United Nations, the initial objective is the elimination of famine and malnutrition in areas of chronic food shortage. Canada will participate in the initial 3-year programme and will contribute about \$5 million in cash and foodstuffs to the proposed \$100-million programme. We are confident that this enlightened humanitarian project will enlist the widespread international support essential to its ultimate success.

New problems and difficulties in international affairs certainly lie ahead, but we must not approach them in a spirit of pessimism and distrust. The future stands open to our initiative. I know that we can do a good deal, not only at the national level, but at the level of each single individual. Were I to dedicate this year-end message to anyone, I would dedicate it to the ordinary people of the world whose individual pleas are seldom heard, but whose collective efforts will in the end direct the tide of history into channels where peace, freedom and human brotherhood can flourish.