

exercise its responsibility accordingly. A sub-committee was eventually established which presented the following resolution to the First Committee:

Whereas the Secretary-General in his annual report has informed the General Assembly of the steps taken by the States Members of the organization in pursuance of its recommendations of December 12, 1946;

The General Assembly

Reaffirms its resolution adopted on December 12, 1946, concerning relations of Members of the United Nations with Spain and

Expresses its confidence that the Security Council will exercise its responsibilities under the Charter as soon as it considers that the situation in regard to Spain so requires.

This resolution was adopted in Committee by 29 votes to 6 with 20 abstentions. Canada, joined by the United States, Australia, Pakistan, South America, France and the Netherlands, voted for paragraphs 1 and 3 and against paragraph 2, and abstained on the whole resolution, since paragraph 2 was adopted. However, in the plenary session, although paragraphs 1 and 3 were adopted by heavy majorities, paragraph 2, reaffirming the 1946 resolution, failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority. The resolution, thus modified, was adopted by the General Assembly 36 to 5 with 12 abstentions. Canada voted for the amended resolution.

The Canadian Attitude

The Canadian position was stated in Committee on November 11 when the Canadian representative said that the imposition of sanctions against Spain would be unconstitutional unless it was first determined by the Security Council that Spain presented a threat to the peace under Article 39 of the Charter.¹

No case had been made to substantiate this allegation and, therefore, the question of Spain could not be considered under Chapter VII of the Charter. The adoption of the Polish proposal, he said, would result only in the United Nations making a futile gesture. He expressed the view further that intervention such as was proposed by Poland would strengthen rather than weaken the

¹The full text of the statement by the Canadian representative is given in Appendix I, V, pp. 216 and 217.