

CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

REPLY TO USSR: On April 14 the General Assembly heard six more speakers in the debate on the problem of voting in the Security Council, the UN Press Bureau reported.

General A.G.L. McNaughton (Canada), René Mayer (France), Dr. Felix Polleri Carrio (Uruguay) and O.C. Gundersen (Norway) supported the recommendations of the ad hoc Political Committee.

Vladimir Popovic (Yugoslavia) and Dr. Juliusz Katz-Suchy (Poland) opposed the recommendations. Dr. Katz-Suchy strongly criticized the North Atlantic Pact which he compared with the Rome-Berlin axis.

The first speaker was General McNaughton, who stated that his delegation had hoped that, on this occasion, there would not be a prolonged debate on the problem of voting in the Security Council, since this matter had been considered at length not only by the 1st Committee in Paris but on many other occasions.

However, he added, as the representative of the USSR had sought in his statement the previous day to "misrepresent both the issues and the positions of certain countries" upon these issues, he felt it was necessary to clarify Canada's position in regard to the question under discussion.

The representatives of the USSR and of Czechoslovakia had sought to introduce a discussion of the North Atlantic Treaty into the consideration of the veto question, said General McNaughton. In so doing they argued that this Treaty represented a new military and political bloc directed against the USSR.

The facts about the Treaty were well known, continued the Canadian representative, and therefore it was "remarkable" that the Soviet representative should have found it necessary to express such "misapprehension" about it.

The North Atlantic Treaty reaffirms in the very first article of its preamble the faith of the signatories in the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, declared General McNaughton. It also expressed their desire to live in peace with all peoples and governments.

It is equally well known, he added, that article 51 of the Charter, upon which the Treaty is based, "specifically" recognizes the "inherent right" of individual or collective self defense if an armed attack occurs "until" the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security.

General McNaughton then stressed the view that the North Atlantic Treaty was "exclusively" concerned with protection against attack from "any quarter" and was not "in any respect" directed against "any particular government."

The Canadian Delegation, said General McNaughton, would not agree to having the attention of the General Assembly "deflected" from the "important" report submitted on the problem of voting in the Security Council.

His Delegation shared with others the "disappointment and discontent" of the overwhelming majority of the United Nations, over the way in which the privileged Security Council voting procedure had been "misused to inhibit" the work of that body.

It is because the recommendations of the ad hoc Political Committee "envisage voluntary and sensible moderation" in the use of the veto, said General McNaughton, and because they represent a "constructive step" towards improving the voting procedure in the Security Council, that his delegation would give them its full support.

Concluding, General McNaughton said that his Delegation considered the draft resolution of the USSR on this question "unnecessary;" in fact, he added, "if the Soviet Delegation really wishes -- in the language of its own resolution -- to seek to improve the possibility of adopting concerted decisions in the Security Council, it should accept the moderate and constructive proposals contained in the ad hoc Political Committee's report."

WORLD PULP CONFERENCE: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson, announced on April 21 that Mr. D.A. Macdonald, the Dominion Forester, would head the Canadian delegation to the Preparatory Conference on World Pulp Problems which opens in Montreal on April 25.

The Conference is being convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and delegates are expected from more than twenty countries interested in the production and consumption of wood pulp. This meeting which will last for ten days, is the first world conference to be called on wood pulp.

The main purpose of the meeting is to explore and discuss the present and prospective demands for pulp in relation to the productive capacity of the pulp industry and the forests of the world. Recommendations to governments will be based on the conclusions emerging from these discussions.

In addition to Mr. Macdonald, members of the delegation will include N.R. Chappel, Department of Trade and Commerce; R.M. Fowler, President, Canadian Pulp and Paper Association; F.G. Robinson, President, Riordon Sales Corporation, Limited, and J.R.S. McLernon, Director, Dryden Paper Company.

Mr. Gibson also announced that the following Canadian technical advisers and observers would attend the Conference -- Dr. Allon Peebles, T.A. McElhanney and R.G. Ray of the Department of Mines and Resources; G.H. Rochester and W.N. Murphy of the Department of Trade and Commerce; F.L. Mitchell, W.H. O'Reilly, C.S. Pincott, Harold S. Foley, and J.O. Chenevert of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association; E.M. Little of the Anglo-Canadian Pulp

and Paper Mills Limited; C.M. Matheson of the Fraser Companies Limited, and Prentice Bloedel of Bloedel, Stewart and Welch Limited.

The Canadian Pulp and Paper Association is taking an active part in making the arrangements for the Conference. A number of the provincial governments will also be represented.

Invitations have been issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization to the following countries to attend: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Belgium, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of S. Africa, United States, United Kingdom, Russia and Yugoslavia.

(Continued from P.1)

Recent events in Hungary and Bulgaria, he continued, and in other countries in Eastern Europe, had given rise throughout the world to the fear that a new effort was being made in these countries to reduce the church to a position where it would become a mere agency of government. These developments cannot be ignored, he said.

Mr. Lapointe then referred to the specific obligations of members of the United Nations under the Charter to promote respect and observance of human rights and freedoms for all.

If therefore falls upon the Assembly, he said, to consider the grave charges which had been made regarding events in Bulgaria and Hungary, and to call upon those Governments, "with all the authority of this world Organization," to abandon their attempts to suppress religion and their assault upon that most precious stronghold of the human spirit, religious freedom.

REVIEWS RECENT TRIALS

Mr. Lapointe then reviewed the recent trials in Hungary and Bulgaria. The events, he said, represented a natural outgrowth of communism which today holds these two countries in its grip. "We know that in a communist state," he said, "it is a fixed principle that all human effort, aspiration and conviction must be subordinated to the dictates and the will of that party which runs the state."

The people in Canada, he said, in common with the people of all other countries where civil liberties are cherished, had been profoundly disturbed by the assault against liberty in Eastern Europe, and particularly by the persecutions of the church leaders in Bulgaria and Hungary.

His Government, Mr. Lapointe said, had already taken certain steps in association with other governments to recall to the Hungarian and Bulgarian Governments their solemn obligations under the peace treaties to safeguard the civil and religious rights of their people.

The Canadian Government, he continued, protested strongly against that policy of repression and religious persecution.

Perhaps these protests and expressions of world opinion, the Canadian representative declared, will fall upon "deaf ears and hardened consciences." But Mr. Lapointe expressed the hope that eventually this earnest desire of mankind to protect the freedom of conscience and of the churches, will prevail.

It was hoped, he said, that the present discussion in the Assembly will at least "focus the attention" of Bulgaria and Hungary on the "aroused opinion of the world."

The question immediately before the Committee, he said, was what remedies should be sought. Firstly, he believed there must be a full and free discussion of the fundamental issues involved. Secondly, the Assembly should express its deep concern on this matter and give its support to the steps already taken by the governments signatory to the peace treaties to find remedies through procedures laid down in the treaties with the two States concerned.

As the Bolivian draft resolution embodied this approach, Mr. Lapointe concluded, the Canadian Delegation would give that resolution its support.

ICAO LONDON CONFERENCE: An International Civil Aviation Organization conference to arrange for the international financing and operation of air navigation services opened on April 20 in London to consider four separate joint support projects. These include the financing of a long range navigational aid station in the Faeroe Islands, meteorological facilities in Greenland, the renewal and revision of the current agreement which maintains 13 floating ocean stations in the North Atlantic for weather reporting and air navigational purposes, and a request from the Government of Greece for financial aid to improve the facilities at Ellinikon Airport (a civil airport near Athens) and for other essential air navigation services required for the safety of international air transport through Greece. The Greek request involves an initial expenditure of \$3,300,000 with an annual operating cost of \$700,000; the Greenland project involves an annual cost of some \$800,000.

Sir Frederick Tymms, United Kingdom representative on the ICAC Council, was elected chairman of the conference. Mr. C.S. Booth (Canada) will serve as chairman for the North Atlantic Ocean Station meeting, Mr. Paul David (United States) for the Greenland and Faeroes meeting, and Sir Frederick Tymms for the Greek conference.

Representatives of 14 nations are present at the joint support conference which is expected to continue for several weeks.