

## CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY

**MR. ST. LAURENT'S STATEMENT:** Addressing the General Assembly of the United Nations yesterday, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Louis St. Laurent said:

A Canadian statement in the general discussion at the opening of the Assembly should, I think, give an account of our stewardship as a member of the United Nations, and our view whether the organization is fulfilling the high purposes and noble ideals which inspired its creation.

As to the former, Canada had endeavoured to discharge both its formal and implied obligations as a member state. Our Parliament has passed legislation necessary for this purpose, including an appropriation of twenty millions of dollars for post-UNRRA international relief. We have also carried out our duty in implementing a resolution of the Assembly which was passed by a substantial majority and was in accord with the Charter, even though we opposed it unsuccessfully when it was introduced.

We do not, of course, feel that we are entitled to any particular credit for the discharge of obligations which we have undertaken, by signing the Charter of the United Nations. I hope, that we, and all others, take those obligations seriously. The proof of this, however, in our case, and in the case of other members, will be found in deeds, not words. So nothing more need be said on this point.

The Canadian people also believed that in signing the Charter, they, and all other member states, accepted an obligation to reconcile views and policies concerning national welfare with those concerning the needs of mankind as a whole. In the light of recent developments, it is perhaps not superfluous to reassert this obligation. It is a mandate to guide ourselves by the principle that in the long run each nation can benefit most from those measures which benefit all nations. It is a commitment constantly to scrutinize our domestic and external policies on the national level so that we may be certain of bringing them into harmony with the high purposes to which this organization is dedicated.

My second purpose in speaking is to give you, in a few words, the view of my government on the present position of our world organization. There is a growing feeling in my country, as in other countries, that the United Nations, because of the experience of the Security Council, is not showing itself equal to the discharge of its primary task of promoting international confidence and ensuring national security. The Economic and Social Council is functioning successfully. The specialist organizations are doing good work. But the Security Council, founded on what is called the unanimity of its permanent members, has done little to strengthen the hopes of those who saw in it the keystone of the structure of peace. It has done much to deepen the fears of

those who felt that, with the veto, it could not operate effectively in an international atmosphere of fear and suspicion, where pride is allowed to take precedence over peace and power over reason.

### U.S. PROPOSAL SUPPORTED

This veto privilege, attacked and defended with equal vigour, if it continues to be abused, may well destroy the United Nations, because it will destroy all confidence in the ability of the Security Council to act internationally, to act effectively, and to act in time. There is no point in deceiving ourselves. Our peoples cannot be expected to accept indefinitely and without alteration, voting procedures and practices which, in the name of unanimity, underline disunity, and which reduce agreement to a lowest common denominator of action that in practice often means inaction. For this reason the Canadian Delegation warmly supports the United States suggestions concerning voting procedure in the Security Council.

Our delegation also supports the United States proposal designed to extend the usefulness of the Assembly. We think that its acceptance would infuse new life and vigour into the whole organization.

In the concentration of attention on the vital role of the Security Council, it should not be forgotten that the Assembly, or a continuing committee of the Assembly, can do many of the things for which the Security Council was intended to take primary responsibility. It can discuss a dispute or situation at open public meetings and at small private committee meetings; it can investigate by calling witnesses and by sending out commissions of enquiry; it can publish the findings of its committees as soon as the Security Council ceases to deal with a dispute or situation. The General Assembly can make recommendations and can send these recommendations to the Security Council or to the States concerned, or to both. The Canadian Delegation sees no reason, therefore, why these functions of the Assembly should not be put to greater use for the solution of problems that are not solved elsewhere.

The fact remains, however, that these problems must be solved and that procedures and practices which obstruct such solutions must be changed. This can be done by the voluntary abandonment of these practices; by agreed conventions or understandings which will regulate them; or, if necessary, by amendments to the Charter. We must hope that no member of the Security Council will flout clearly expressed world opinion by obstinately preventing change and thus become responsible for prejudicing and possibly destroying the organization which is now man's greatest hope for the future.

Nations, in their search for peace and

cooperation, will not and cannot accept indefinitely and unaltered a council which was set up to ensure their security, and which, so many feel, has become frozen in futility, and divided by dissension. If forced, they may seek greater safety in an association of democratic and peace-loving states willing to accept more specific international obligations in return for greater national security. Such associations, if consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter, can be formed within the United Nations. It is to be hoped that such a development will not be necessary. If it is unnecessary, it will be undesirable. If, however, it is made necessary, it will take place. Let us not forget that the provisions of the Charter are a floor under rather than a ceiling over the responsibilities of member states. If some prefer to go even below that floor, others need not be prevented from moving upwards.

Two, or more, apartments in the structure of peace are undoubtedly less desirable than one family of nations dwelling together in amity, undivided by curtains or even more substantial pieces of political furniture. They are, however, to be preferred to the alternative of wholly separate structures.

This, you may say, is defeatism of the worst kind. It is not. It is merely sober realism. It is folly to deny that certain events of the last twelve months have weakened the position of our organization. It would equally be folly to deny that a continuation of this trend may cause it ultimately to collapse.

Our delegation, our government, and our Canadian people are determined to do everything they can to prevent this tragic development. Our faith and hope still shine, though now through an overcast of anxiety. The work of this Assembly, to which we pledge our contribution, will, we trust, remove that anxiety, justify that faith, and heighten that hope.

### MINISTER TO NORWAY

**MR. GARLAND'S APPOINTMENT:** The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announced yesterday the appointment of Edward J. Garland as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Canada in Norway. Mr. Garland succeeds Dr. Henry Laureys who was Canadian Minister in both Norway and Denmark. Mr. Laureys will now be Canadian Minister to Denmark only.

Mr. Garland was born in Dublin, Ireland, on March 16, 1886, son of Dr. and Mrs. John Garland. He received his education in Ireland, first at Belvedere College, Dublin, then at Trinity College, Dublin, where he received his Arts degree in 1909, and studied medicine for three years, leaving the University as Senior Sophister. Mr. Garland came to Canada in 1909, and was active in agricultural associations. He was elected to the Canadian House of Commons in 1921, re-elected in 1925, 1926 and 1930.

In 1940 Mr. Garland entered the Department of External Affairs, and from 1940 to 1947 was Secretary of the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in Ireland. During much of this period he was Acting High Commissioner. In 1946 he was Canadian delegate to the International Civil Aviation meeting in Dublin.

He was married in 1916 to Alfrida Sophia Rynning. They have a daughter and two sons.

**RED CLOVER EXPORTABLE SURPLUS:** A preliminary estimate of the Canadian exportable surplus of alsike and red clover seed this year made by the Plant Products Division, Department of Agriculture, is 1,763,200 lb. of alsike and 881,600 lb. of double cut type red clover seed and 881,600 lb. of single cut type red clover.

The International Emergency Food Council has recommended a preliminary distribution of 2,065 metric tons of alsike seed and 4,212 metric tons of red clover seed to about 16 countries, the largest amount of alsike being allocated to the United Kingdom - 1000 tons - and the largest amount of red clover to the U.S. and U.K. zones in Germany - 1500 tons.

**CIVIL AVIATION IN MAY:** Canadian scheduled air carriers reported revenues for May of \$1,651,564 as compared with \$1,865,698 in April and \$1,667,976 in May, 1946. In addition to the decrease in revenues, operating expenses increased from \$1,638,839 in May 1946 to \$1,929,531 leaving the loss from operations of \$277,967. For the first five months of 1947, the operating loss was \$1,929,132 compared with \$132,416 in the similar period last year.

Revenues of non-scheduled carriers increased for the month to \$219,241 compared with \$116,989 in May, 1946, but operating expenses increased from \$87,347 to \$270,151 leaving a debit net operating revenue of \$50,910.

**FARM WAGE RATES AT HIGH LEVEL:** Average wage rates paid to farm help in Canada are higher than at any time since comparable statistics became available in 1940, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Scarcity of labor and the maintenance of a high level of farm income have been important factors contributing towards the continuing rise in farm wage rates. Except in the case of monthly wages with board, Saskatchewan wage rates were the highest among the provinces. On the other hand, wage rates in Prince Edward Island were the lowest.

Average rates for Canada as reported at August 15 this year were \$4.13 per day and \$82.75 per month where the employer provided the board as compared with rates of \$4.04 and \$75.28 respectively at the same date a year ago. Where the employee provided his own board, the average rates were \$5.17 per day and \$109.03 per month as against \$4.95 and \$100.62, respectively, as reported at August 15, 1946.