

the war, Canada also played a constructive role. At a critical stage in this problem, the Canadian representative on the Security Council proposed a practical course of action which helped the Netherlands Government and the Indonesian representatives to work out an agreement on the aspects of the Security Council's proposals on which they differed. This led to preliminary talks at Batavia, followed by a round-table conference at The Hague, and ultimately to the establishment of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia. Throughout, Canada took a special interest in and responsibility for the settlement of the Indonesian dispute.

On the question of Palestine, Canada also played an important role. Two Canadians served on the special committee on Palestine which visited the Middle East early in 1947, and our present Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable L. B. Pearson, presided over the special session of the General Assembly called to consider the Palestine question in the spring of 1947.

In an informal way, Canadian representatives at the United Nations have been able to help find middle of the road solutions in a number of other situations. Their contribution in this way had taken the form of private conversations and informal discussions, and little of it shows up on the public record. Mr. Pearson's achievements along these lines have been outstanding and have brought him world-wide recognition. His influence was particularly strong in shaping the course of events in the earlier stages of the Palestine dispute and in successive stages of the Korean situation. In his capacity as President of the Seventh Session of the Assembly, Mr. Pearson made a truly great contribution to the success of the United Nations and to the achievement of international accord, both as an astute and alert Chairman and as a conciliator in the informal discussions which so often succeeded in bringing harmony out of discord.

While Canada's contribution to the United Nations cannot be measured in dollar terms, it is noteworthy that this country is seventh in the list of contributors--accounting for 3.30 per cent of the budget. Our subscriptions to the Specialized Agencies also compare favourably with those of other countries. For 1953, Canada's contribution to the United Nations was, in Canadian funds, \$1,394,504; to the Specialized Agencies, \$1,220,655; to the United Nations Expanded Program of Technical Assistance, \$795,000; to the United Nations Children's Fund, \$500,000; to the United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund, \$100,000; or a total of \$4,010,159. Previously, Canada had also made substantial contributions for the relief and rehabilitation of Arab refugees.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS:

It was recognized in the Charter that lasting peace could only be found within a framework of stability and economic well-being. Accordingly, the United Nations undertook to help promote higher standards of living, to concern itself with international problems in the economic, social and health fields and to extend cultural co-operation and respect for human rights and freedoms. There are three separate but related areas of operation in which an effort