

movement of foreign correspondents; laws affecting the press; monopolies; professional standards and training; independence of information personnel; protection of sources of information; development of press, film, radio and television; production and distribution of newsprint; press rates and priorities; international broadcasting and use of frequencies; postal rates for press material; tariff and trade practices affecting the transmission of educational, scientific and cultural materials; and copyright agreements. Eleven suggested draft resolutions make specific recommendations for action or further study regarding certain aspects of these questions; a twelfth suggests the appointment of a Rapporteur on Freedom of Information to serve for a further period of one year and contains a detailed programme of work to be undertaken by him including a study of the desirability of establishing a small continuing body to serve as an "international co-ordinating centre for professional action and as a liaison body between the profession and the United Nations."

The sixteenth session of ECOSOC, in accordance with the resolution of the Assembly mentioned above regarding development of information facilities in under-developed areas, was to have considered the desirability of extending its studies in this field and to examine a programme of concrete action to be drawn up by the Secretary-General. This item too has been postponed.

During November and December 1952 the seventh session of the General Conference of UNESCO considered the problem of obstacles to the free flow of information. Member states were invited to reduce such obstacles and the Director-General was authorized to continue the efforts of the Organization to promote or to study various measures directed to this objective such as the reduction of tariff, trade, legal, administrative, postal, telecommunication and other obstacles and also to study the possibility of securing an international instrument to promote the freedom of movement of persons engaged in educational, scientific or cultural activities.

Refugees

It was generally assumed in the closing days of the International Refugee Organization (IRO) that in the wake of the large-scale post-war accomplishments of re-settlement, the problem of refugees would rapidly be reduced to manageable proportions. But to the ranks of refugees still unsettled at the termination of IRO early in 1952 there have been added large numbers of new refugees who continue to escape from Iron Curtain countries. This influx, coupled with a severe reduction in emigration opportunities, has kept at a high level the number of refugees whose problems have not been solved.¹ In all there are today about 2,000,000 people who come within the principal category of the United Nations definition of refugees, i.e. persons who are outside the country of their normal residence because of fear of persecution, and who look to the United Nations High

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, pp. 76-78.