

At the outset, I said that this could be a historical occasion. No one will deny that it is an important event. For some time now my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L.B. Pearson, has shared with so many others a deep desire to extend the membership of the United Nations in which he and the Government of which he is so distinguished a member, have such great faith and I am sure that I can go beyond the government and speak for the parliament of my country. It would be a matter of the greatest regret, and not without deep significance, if the efforts to break the deadlock on the membership issue did not succeed. The United Nations is not free of imperfections. Its record is not one of absolute achievement. Its record, however, is good and its future parallels the concerns and the interests of all nations. It is because of these things that in proposing this resolution on behalf of all the sponsoring nations, the Canadian Delegation is firm in the view that our efforts on behalf of new members will not fail, that, as a result, our efforts in the first year of the second decade of this organization will be marked by an event second only to the foundation of the United Nations.

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