

CANADA AT THE U.N.

information, this experiment in world organization could not succeed, because it would not be able to secure popular support. But the United Nations has, or should have a private as well as a public face. There should be opportunities here for other than public appearances. A television panel discussion can be instructive and entertaining, but it is no substitute for direct consultation or for that old-fashioned diplomacy which is becoming more respectable by comparison with some of its gaudier, but not always more responsible or restrained successors.

"It is, of course, essential that all free peoples should know and understand the great issues of policy which may mean life or death for them. But it is not essential, indeed it is often harmful, for the negotiation of policy always to be conducted in glass houses which are often too tempting a target for brickbats. It is all too easy to strike attitudes in public, only to find later that we are struck with them. Open diplomacy now tends to become frozen diplomacy.

CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION

"I'm sure that we can all think of subjects that have come before us in recent assemblies that could have been more constructively discussed and more easily settled if previously there had been quiet and confidential discussion of them between delegations and governments, especially between those which were in disagreement over the matters in question.

"The opportunities for such consultation at United Nations meetings seem to be diminishing. A kind of bloc or group discussion is on the other hand increasing, the results of which are often in one form or another made public almost before they have taken place. If we are not careful these publicly confidential discussions may cause the United Nations to lose in prestige as a place where opposing views can be constructively considered, and where their reconciliation can at least be attempted in an efficient and businesslike way....

"The two principal issues which will test the reality behind the talk, are Germany and Korea. The latter issue, Korea, has now narrowed to the political conference to be held under paragraph 60 of the Armistice Agreement.

"The countries which fought in Korea on the United Nations side sent their troops there for no other purpose than to help repel aggression, declared as such by a United Nations decision.

"So far as the Canadian Government is concerned, we will not support any military action in Korea that is not United Nations action, and we would be opposed to any attempt to interpret existing United Nations objectives as including the unification of Korea by force. On the other hand, we are aware that

the signing of an armistice does not discharge us from obligations we have already taken in Korea as a member of the United Nations.

"To convert the armistice into peace, the political conference must meet. Less than a month ago the Seventh Assembly made provision for the United Nations side of this meeting. True, this was done in a way which did not meet the full wishes of certain delegations, including my own. But the decision was made, and, after long and exhaustive debate, the composition of the conference on the United Nations side was decided in a way which, if not perfect, should be satisfactory for the purpose we have in mind; making peace in Korea. Surely it would be wrong merely because the communist Governments of Peking and North Korea demand it, to reopen at once the whole matter and try to reverse our decision after such a short interval.

"Insistence, for instance, by the Communist side that the Korean Conference cannot convene unless the United Nations agree that the USSR be present as a "neutral" member would throw serious doubt on their desire to have the conference meet at all.

"We have the right to expect that the communist Governments to whom our resolutions have been forwarded should now without delay designate their own representatives, and express their views regarding time and place...."

* * * *

POLIO RESEARCH: Intensive research into the causes of and possible control measures for poliomyelitis is being carried out at both the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, and the School of Hygiene, University of Montreal, with the aid of federal health grants, the Minister of National Health and Welfare announced on September 23.

The Toronto research, which is being directed by Dr. A.J. Rhodes, virologist for the Sick Children's Hospital, is undertaking to investigate more thoroughly than has previously been possible the various strains of polio viruses in Canada and to find out which of the three common types cause polio epidemics in this country. These viruses are distinct and do not give rise to cross resistance.

* * * *

STUDENTS FROM PAKISTAN: Seven agricultural officers from Pakistan arrived in Ottawa September 23 by air, and will continue to Toronto for a period of instruction under provisions of the Colombo Plan for the Economic Development of South and Southeast Asia. They will study the operation and maintenance of agricultural machinery under the auspices of Massey-Harris Company, Limited, for a period of six months. The first stage of the training program will be spent at the company experimental farm near Toronto, while the second will consist of shop training in the plant at Woodstock, Ont.