

problems from the social aspect. The Council decided to request further periodical reports of this kind and asked the Social Commission to make recommendations for the programme of action requested by the Assembly. Suggestions and recommendations of the Specialized Agencies and of governments were also invited. The discussion brought out the strong desire of a number of countries to emphasize in a particular way the responsibility of the United Nations to deal with the social problems of disease, poverty and ignorance. The magnitude of the problems faced was forcibly brought out in the report, as was the need for greatly increased humanitarian efforts on the international scale for the relief of world misery and the possibility of useful action in these fields.

Report of the Social Commission

The Council approved the work programme drawn up by the Social Commission and commented upon recommendations contained therein. It adopted resolutions in relation to programmes of housing and community improvement, advisory welfare services, the in-service training of social service personnel for the development of child welfare programmes, and to the simplification of formalities for immigration. The Secretary-General was also asked to appoint a group of experts to report on the most satisfactory methods of defining and measuring standards of living and changes in these standards in various countries.

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

A number of members of the Council spoke in very complimentary terms of the work being carried out by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. The programmes have helped or will benefit 62,000,000 children and mothers in 72 countries and territories. The Council drew the attention of governments to the need to meet the Fund's \$20,000,000 target programme for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953.

Population Conference

The Council approved the holding in 1954 of a World Population Conference of experts for a scientific discussion of world-wide population problems.

Human Rights

The Commission on Human Rights having reported that it had been unable to complete the work of drafting two covenants, on civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights, the Council extended the time for completion of the draft to 1953 when both instruments are to be submitted to the Council. The Council also considered recommendations which the Commission on Human Rights had made in compliance with a request of the General Assembly concerning international respect for the self-determination of peoples. Two resolutions which the Commission on Human Rights submitted on this subject were transmitted to the General Assembly without comment, the majority of the Council having decided that the Assembly and not the Council was the proper forum for discussion of this subject.

Freedom of Information

The Council was called upon to consider the lines along which it might continue the performance of its tasks in the field of freedom of information, having regard to the discontinuance of the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information. It decided to appoint for an experimental period of one year a rapporteur on matters relating to freedom of information and appointed for this purpose Mr. Salvador Lopez of the