

famine. The problem of counteracting excessive price fluctuations could best be met, the Canadian Representative stated, by co-operation between producing and consuming countries in making appropriate arrangements on a commodity-by-commodity basis.

The resolution adopted by the twenty-second session of ECOSOC agreed generally with the conclusions of the FAO study, and asked the Secretary-General, in consultation with such other organizations and individuals as he saw fit, to report on "the possibility of further national and international action . . . including the feasibility of using food reserves for meeting unforeseeable food shortages . . .".

The matter was again looked into by the General Assembly's eleventh session, and the United States Representative introduced a resolution suggesting the use of surplus agricultural commodities for building up national food reserves. This resolution generated considerable debate and apprehensions were voiced about the possible effect of the large-scale use of surpluses on normal production and trade. The resolution finally adopted requested the Secretary-General to explore the subject in consultation with FAO (which was already studying ways of using surplus food products, with safeguards to normal production and trade, to build up national food reserves). The resolution invited importing and exporting countries to continue to consult about using surpluses to build up national reserves "with due regard for the FAO principles of surplus disposal, particularly the need to avoid harmful interference with normal patterns of production and international trade . . .".

### **Industrialization of Under-Developed Countries**

In a variety of United Nations meetings, many member countries have for several years been urging action through the United Nations to facilitate and speed industrialization in under-developed areas. Many under-developed countries consider that industrialization is an essential element in raising living standards and maintaining economic stability; their dependence on the production and export of a limited number of agricultural products and basic raw materials, which are often subject to severe price fluctuations on world markets, results in economic and political instability. Industrialization would diversify their economies, lessen their dependence on manufactured imports, and create job opportunities for under-employed rural population.

In response to a resolution of the Economic and Social Council the Secretary-General in early 1955 produced a report "Processes and Problems of Industrialization in Under-Developed Countries" and somewhat later a further report "A Programme of Work on Industrialization and Productivity". These reports were the basis of a discussion of industrialization at the twenty-first session of ECOSOC (April 1956) when a United Nations programme in the field of industrialization was approved, and of a further discussion at the twenty-second session of ECOSOC (July-August 1956) which approved a specific list of studies and projects for immediate attention. There was a debate at both of these ECOSOC sessions about possible additional United Nations machinery in the field of industrialization. A further general discussion of the United Nations programme in the field of industrialization took place at the eleventh session of the General Assembly, where the question of United Nations machinery was again raised. The General