

advance far on issues on which there remained, as usual, a major clash of interest.

The atmosphere of the Assembly was influenced, as it generally is, by the current international climate, and particularly by the fact that some of the major problems, such as the Korea problem and the prospect of a meeting of the big four powers on Germany, were being dealt with elsewhere. Nevertheless the United Nations continued to provide a valuable meeting ground for East and West, and it kept in motion in the right direction the machinery of international co-operation.

The Canadian Delegation

At the beginning of the session our Secretary of State for External Affairs had to resume his function as head of the Canadian Delegation after he turned over to his successor, Madame Pandit of India, the duties of President of the General Assembly. I think I express a view which is shared by most members of this House when I say that our country was extremely proud to have as one of its most distinguished sons one who did such a wonderful job as President of that important international body. His sense of duty and the effective way in which he conducted the proceedings gave to the people of Canada another reason to believe that our Secretary of State for External Affairs enjoys the reputation of being not only a great diplomat but a really great Canadian.

I would be remiss in my duty were I not to congratulate the Postmaster General (Mr. Cote) who was Acting Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the 8th session of the General Assembly during the long absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson). The Postmaster General discharged these duties with ability while losing nothing of his usual geniality.

I would also like to point out the excellent work done by my colleague from Mount Royal (Mr. Macnaughton) who also happens to be my member, since I have the honour of living in his constituency. He was an assiduous participant in all discussions, as a delegate, more particularly in the legal committee to which he brought his long experience in the field of law.

In the work of the Canadian Delegation, we were also assisted by the presence of parliamentary observers from each of the main parties represented in this house; and I feel sure that this arrangement, which is based upon the practice followed in earlier years, has fully justified itself.

As in previous sessions, several major problems which are not new played a large part in assembly discussions and will, I am afraid, continue in the future to challenge our collective resources of intelligence and good will. These arose from issues of nationalism, colonialism and racialism. We have witnessed in acute form the practical problems which arise in this world organization in seeking to reconcile the principle of the domestic jurisdiction of sovereign states over dependent peoples with the legitimate interest of the United Nations in human rights and peaceful progress towards a wider freedom for all peoples. These are not merely arid, constitutional debates. They relate