

complement are not the principles upon which the Soviet Union has been established. We recognize, however, that in varying degrees they are not principles which are accepted unreservedly by other States now members of the League, for which we have the highest respect. While believing firmly that in the long run the League can succeed only by the application in the international sphere of these ideals of liberty and democracy, we recognize that for the present we must agree to differ and that we cannot require other States to conform to such principles, or reject their collaboration in the League so long as they share in the one indispensable condition of readiness to work together for the peace of the world.

"There were, however, two other considerations which may be stated briefly. One was the possibility of propaganda, to which reference has frequently been made this afternoon. We in Canada have not been free from serious interference in our internal affairs by representatives of the Third International, which it has frequently been difficult to distinguish from the Government of the Soviet Union. We believe, however, that the unreserved acceptance by the Soviet Union in the letter which has been read to-day of the undertaking to observe all the international obligations of the Covenant must necessarily involve a satisfactory attitude on this point in the future.

"A further question is the apprehension felt by many thousands in Canada who have relatives and friends in Russia as to the continuance of the sufferings and the famine which were reported in many districts of the Soviet Union last year and on previous occasions. We believe, however, that like other Members of the League, the Soviet Union will be prepared to do what is possible to relieve distress and will be prepared to sanction any assistance, devoid of political bias which individual citizens of any other Member of the League might desire to tender to those in distress, just as similar sanction would be given reciprocally.

"We have therefore shared in the indication which was given in advance of readiness to support the proposed entry of Russia into the League and shall vote for her admission, in the trust that her presence in the League will facilitate good neighbourliness and mean the opening of a new and better era."

The question being put to a vote the following countries supported the admission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics into the League: Union of South Africa, Albania, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Spain, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Iraq, Irish Free State, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, Persia, Poland, Roumania, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Turkey, and Yugoslavia.

Protection of Minorities.

The Polish proposal that the League of Nations should convene an international conference to draw up a General Convention on the Protection of Minorities, provoked considerable discussion in the Sixth Committee. Although more thorough than those of previous years, the discussion did not bring forward any new arguments regarding the settlement of the minorities problem. It nevertheless served a useful purpose in that it revealed the opinion of numerous delegations on the system of protection at present in force, together with their views regarding the desirability and possibility of generalizing that system.

The Polish contention appeared in general to be that the present system governing the protection of minorities is inequitable and unjust, in that it limits the sovereignty of certain states while leaving others free from any legal undertaking in the treatment of the racial, linguistic or religious minorities