

undertake a study of this problem, and placed it among the items on the agenda of its 1966 session as a matter of priority. It also made proposals with respect to the system of periodic reports on human rights and, in its recommendations with respect to observances and activities for 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, proposed that an international conference should be held in 1968 to review progress in the field of human rights and to consider what further measures might be taken by the United Nations in this area.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its twentieth session in Geneva in November and December 1965. It approved a resolution establishing a special committee to study problems concerning drugs not now under international control, such as barbiturates and tranquillizers, and noted that, while illicit traffic was still alarming in extent, international co-operation in the enforcement of control measures was improving, especially among Canada, the United States, Mexico and France. It also reviewed the problems posed by opium and opiates, cannabis and coca leaf, considered a United States proposal for the complete suppression of the use of opium, and adopted a resolution stressing the need for technical assistance to the countries in which coca leaf was used. It heard views expressed on the socio-economic aspects of drug addiction and reviewed achievements in the narcotics field during the twenty years of its existence. Canada has been a member of the Commission since its establishment in 1946.

Population Commission

The Population Commission held its thirteenth session in New York in March and April 1965. Basing itself on the results of an inquiry previously addressed to member states of the United Nations, the Commission discussed at length the relation of population growth to economic and social development and suggested that such enquiries be carried out on an average of every five years, with the succeeding enquiry to be narrower and more intensive in scope.

The Commission adopted a resolution requesting the Secretary-General to consider giving greater priority in the Secretariat to work in the population field and to consult the Specialized Agencies concerned on the division of responsibilities in the programme of work recommended by the Commission. The Commission discussed population problems and, in what could be regarded as the key issue of its thirteenth session, dealt with the extent and type of United Nations technical assistance in the population field. The issue was underscored by the visit of five United Nations experts to India in Febru-