

Canadian Representative expressed<sup>1</sup> the belief that while the recommendations advanced by the Committee on Contributions represented a step in the right direction, the proposed scale for 1951 did not fully reflect the rapid and far-reaching economic expansion which had taken place in certain countries. In particular, the U.S.S.R. and other Soviet countries had claimed impressive post-war recovery. The proposed increases in their assessments, though significant, should have been greater to conform with the avowed improvements in their economies.

For technical and other reasons, the Canadian Delegation reluctantly agreed to accept the 1951 scale (recommended by the Contributions Committee) as an improvement on the past, but on the distinct understanding that a more equitable scale would be submitted for 1952.

### The Specialized Agencies

Although the scales of contributions of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies are based on similar general principles, they differ considerably from one another. The differences have arisen mainly out of historical circumstances and the varying character and membership of each organization. For instance ILO and FAO, which came into being before the United Nations, have based their contributions on the scale used by the League of Nations, adjusted to reflect post-war conditions and a widened participation. In these two organizations, as well as in ICAO, which regards interest and importance in civil aviation as an additional consideration in the calculation of assessments, the United States, as the largest contributor, pays an appreciably lower percentage than in the United Nations.<sup>2</sup> On the other hand, the UNESCO and WHO scales are based on that of the United Nations, modified to take into account differences in membership. Like the United Nations, they have approved the principle of a ceiling to be applied "in normal times", but WHO has so far been the only Specialized Agency to recognize the related principle of per capita adjustments.

Canada has consistently maintained that since the United Nations scale had been derived from the most reliable and up-to-date information regarding capacity to pay, it should be used to the greatest possible extent by the Agencies, with only such adjustments as are necessary to reflect differences in membership and other special factors. In conformity with these views, which are shared by many other governments, the General Assembly in 1949 adopted a resolution authorizing the United Nations Committee on Contributions to recommend or advise on the scale of contributions for a Specialized Agency if requested to do so by the Agency. By the end of 1950, FAO, ILO and UNESCO had requested assistance in the preparation of their scales.

Although there has been some progress toward a closer relationship between assessments in the several organizations, there has been a natural resistance by most members to any upward adjustments in their contributions. The United States Government,

<sup>1</sup>For the text of the Canadian statement on the "Scale of Assessments", see Appendix 18, pp. 186-188.

<sup>2</sup>See Appendix 17, p. 185.