

nations. The Board will have a full-time director who, it is understood, will be an outstanding American industrialist.

The production of modern military equipment and the maintenance of modern fighting forces are very costly. Some countries are better placed than others to provide men and supplies quickly. Different countries have different standards of equipment and maintenance for their armed forces. Under the North Atlantic Treaty, the signatories are committed to "continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid" in order to be able to resist attack. The question of "mutual aid" naturally leads to a consideration of the abilities of the several countries to support the economic and financial loads of common defence. In some countries the whole foundation of post-war recovery might be shaken by too heavy a load. Political as well as economic factors have to be considered. No country can be expected to shoulder new and heavy burdens if others are hanging back. Thus co-operation in defence implies co-operation in wider fields.

### **Simplification of Structure Needed**

A further problem under discussion in NATO is that of simplification of its committee structure, particularly at the political level. The organization was originally set up with three Ministerial committees: the Council, which was the over-all directing authority, consisting of Foreign Ministers; the Defence Committee, consisting of Defence Ministers; the Defence Finance and Economic Committee, consisting of Finance Ministers. This arrangement undoubtedly had the advantage that it directly interested various Ministers in every government and the officials of their departments in NATO problems, but it was not designed for speedy action. At the meeting in May 1950 it was decided to set up a standing body of Deputies of Council members in order to give continuous direction to the activities of the organization. However, it is still felt in many quarters that the political structure is unduly cumbersome. The Canadian Government has accordingly suggested that the three Ministerial Committees should be consolidated in one body, which would be in effect a Council of Governments, and that at any meeting governments should be entitled to be represented by whatever Ministers they deem appropriate. This proposal was favourably discussed at the Brussels meeting and was referred back to the Council Deputies for study and report.

Progress in strengthening the North Atlantic community depends, however, more directly on actions taken by governments and parliaments than on agreement on principles or plans reached at NATO meetings. In this connection the enormously enhanced defence programme of the United States adopted since aggression in Korea is perhaps the most significant event of the year in NATO circles. Under the leadership of the United States, virtually every member of NATO raised its defence sights. The United States programme included quadrupling appropriations for the year under the Mutual Defence Assistance Act, and a considerable volume of military equipment and supplies has begun to flow across the Atlantic.

To this volume Canada is contributing. The special appropriation for assisting the re-armament of NATO countries passed by Parliament in September made it possible for Canada to offer to transfer from its reserve military stocks, armament, ancillary equipment and ammunition of United Kingdom type for two divisions, the Canadian Army to be re-equipped by the purchase of United States types. This equipment for one division has already been transferred to the Netherlands, in accordance with the recommendations of NATO Council Deputies; that for the second division, it is expected, will be made available shortly.

Large orders for new equipment have been placed by the United States and the United Kingdom, mainly with their own producers, for their own needs and those of their allies. Canadian productive capacity, as well as that of other NATO countries,