

Development (UNCTAD) that Canada had voted against because of certain conditions it set for international financing.

In recent years especially, the developing countries have recognized the direct relation between growth in population and economic development. Because of the controversial nature of the subject, the United Nations has avoided undertaking technical assistance projects related to birth control, but during the year the Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution which tended to change its policy in this respect¹ and which brought to the attention of the Assembly the need to provide the necessary financial resources for the Organization's activities in the field of population. In the debate that ensued in the Committee, a wide range of views was expressed on the population question and, therefore, because of the limited time that remained, it was decided to postpone further consideration of the matter until the twenty-first session.

The high rate of illiteracy amongst the world's population was another source of concern. In dealing with this question, the Second Committee, in effect, endorsed the pilot-project approach of UNESCO to the eradication of illiteracy and supported UNESCO's efforts to put literacy projects into the context of total development programmes. The resolution amounts to confirmation of the view that illiteracy cannot be wiped out by a short, all-out campaign throughout the world.

The Second Committee dealt with the report of UNCTAD² and postponed for further consideration at its twenty-first session the questions of permanent sovereignty over natural resources and the conversion to peaceful needs of the resources released by disarmament.

Third Committee

Human Rights

The item on the Draft International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination dominated the proceedings of the Third Committee at the twentieth session. The debate on the convention tended to centre on three issues. Although the text as presented by the Commission on Human Rights made no mention of any specific form of racial discrimination other than *apartheid*, the United States and Israeli delegations introduced an amendment calling for the specific condemnation of anti-Semitism. The Soviet

¹See Page 64.

²See Page 42.