

time to time by various members of the Council it was quite apparent that most delegations fully appreciated our interest in the work of the Council by having an observer follow closely the proceedings of the Eighth Session. Indeed many times the question was asked "When is Canada going to again take its rightful place as a member of the Council?" Such delegations as those of the United Kingdom, the United States, and Australia seemed quite anxious that Canada should, in the near future again stand for re-election. It would seem that if we chose to do so there would not be much difficulty in our being re-elected. Indeed in my opinion most delegations would be very pleased to see us back. I would think, therefore, that whatever publicity we might have needed in order to help us get re-elected has already been achieved by means of our observing this past session of the Council, and I hope it will be possible for an observer to follow the Ninth Session of the Council which is to meet in Geneva.

4. This brings us then to the question of whether we should in addition place an item on the Agenda of the 9th session. It is our opinion that, for the reasons outlined above, this is not necessary from the point of view of establishing our continuing interest in the work of the Council. I would think that Canada, as any other member of the United Nations, should, of course, bring a matter to the attention of any of the organs of the United Nations if it is the considered opinion of the government that some item of international importance, especially if it directly affects Canada's interests, requires international action at a particular time. Unless there is some such matter which we think demands the attention of the Economic and Social Council this coming summer, it would not be in keeping with the principle expressed above if we were to bring some other matter to the attention of the Council at this time, no matter how helpful it might be. I would think that this principle is especially valid when a country is not a member of the Council. I say this realizing full well that, of course, any country has the right to raise an issue in the Council regardless of whether or not it is a member.

5. A further reason which I would advance for us not immediately to place an item on the agenda of the Ninth session in Geneva is that the Council's Agenda at that time will be even heavier than its Agenda at the 8th Session. This was pointed out by the President in his closing address. In addition to the Annual Reports of most of the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the Council will have on its Agenda the major world economic debate. The debate just held on this subject at Lake Success was of a preliminary nature only. Even more important and requiring more time will be the discussions arising from the reports which the Secretary-General is now preparing on technical assistance and economic development of under-developed areas. This is regarded by the Secretary-General as being a matter of outstanding interest and importance to the future work of the United Nations in the economic field, and obviously will take up a great deal of the Council's time. Therefore, if a non-member were to place a subject on the Agenda it would almost certainly not receive much consideration and indeed it might be postponed altogether.

6. I say all this because I do believe that the situation has changed since last November. There is one further point which I would like to mention and that is this. Dr. Davidson in his letter of November 23 pointed out that Canada's contribution